

PRAYING PSALM 141

“Give ear to my voice when I cry out to you” (Psalm 141:1).

In this psalm David describes prayer as incense offered to God. 1. DAVID ASKS THE LORD TO HEAR HIM (1-2). Give ear when I cry unto You. 2. DAVID ASKS GOD TO HELP HIM KEEP HIS MOUTH AND HEART FROM EVIL WHEN ASKING FOR JUSTICE FOR THE WICKED (3-7). Set a guard over my mouth. Do not incline my heart to any evil thing. 3. DAVID ASKS THE LORD TO DELIVER HIM FROM HIS ENEMIES (8-10). Do not leave my soul destitute. Keep me from the snares they have for me. Let the wicked fall into their own nets while I escape safely.

To ask God to hear is to ask God to answer you. It is important to develop persistence in prayer that demonstrates fervency in trust. If you prayed once for something and forgot about it, you probably didn't really care. God probably didn't lay it on your heart. You aren't desperate enough. Maybe you believe you can handle it by yourself. Maybe you need to check your own heart. Prayer often moves from the mind as a starting point, which means it seems like a good idea. Prayer becomes fervent as it moves from our mind to our spirit. Prayer is best when it begins with a moving in the heart. The heart is a metaphor for the spirit. Prayer is a spiritual request, a spiritual search, a spiritual battle. The goal is spiritual victory. Why do you want deliverance? Is it solely to find relief, or do you want to move forward in God's purpose for you? Do you want to see what God has next for you? David would “cry out” to God for help. Fervent prayer is desperate. Maybe that's the place to begin. Are we desperate?