

Abundant Life Church
Pastor Steve Finton
January 14, 2018

Series: ***The Year of Getting What You Want***

Title: ***Last Things First***

What you really want and what God really wants for you might be closer than you think

Romans 8:26 (NCV)

Also, the Spirit helps us with our weakness. We do not know how to pray as we should. But the Spirit himself speaks to God for us, even begs God for us with deep feelings that words cannot explain.

John 14:12-14 (NCV)

I tell you the truth, whoever believes in me will do the same things that I do. Those who believe will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. And if you ask for anything in my name, I will do it for you so that the Father's glory will be shown through the Son. If you ask me for anything in my name, I will do it.

What you are praying for in 2018 is closer than you think!

Anxiety: worry, nervousness, or unease, typically about an imminent event or something with an uncertain outcome.

Proven fact - anxiety increases your heart rate.

Living in anxiety can cause mental or physical health problems!

Just follow some of the rules and there should be less anxiety as a Christian!

Mark 7:1-8 (NLT)

The Pharisees and some of the teachers of the law who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus and saw some of his disciples eating food with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed. (The Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they give their hands a ceremonial washing, holding to the tradition of the elders. When they come from the marketplace they do not eat unless they wash. And they observe many other traditions, such as the washing of cups, pitchers and kettles. So the Pharisees and teachers of the law asked Jesus, "Why don't your disciples live according to the tradition of the elders instead of eating their food with defiled hands?" He replied, "Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you hypocrites; as it is written, 'These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. They worship me in vain; their teachings are merely human rules.' You have let go of the commands of God and are holding on to human traditions."

People feel better about following God when they can check off some simple rules.

Living in excitement produces joy.

What if you said today:

Abundant Life Church
Pastor Steve Finton
January 14, 2018

- God, who do you want me to reach out to today?
- God, I am excited to see how you are going to work out some of these problems in my life!
- God, how do you want me to step out in faith?

External Power: Creates a victim status

1. There's nothing I can do. (Powerless)
2. The *I can't* attitude
3. The *if only* whine

Internal Power: Creates individual champions of faith

1. God, what are my alternatives?
2. God, I choose to trust you to see how you will work in my situation.
3. God, I will pray and make my requests known.

Romans 12:12 (NCV)

Be joyful because you have hope. Be patient when trouble comes, and pray at all times.

Covey personal mission statement: <https://msb.franklincovey.com>

What would you like each of these speakers to say about you and your life?

What you really want and what God really wants for you might be closer than you think!

Romans 8:28 (NCV)

We know that in everything God works for the good of those who love him.

Prayer Expectations: I expect two things when I pray:

1. God answers my prayer
2. God's will is accomplished