

**ENCOURAGEMENT TO PURSUE THE CULTIVATION OF A STRONG PRAYER-LIFE** (A short list of words of encouragement)

1. God will hear and answer Prayers  
Psalm 3:4; 4:3; 6:8-9

2. God will sustain  
Psalm 3:5

Freed from fear  
Psalm 6

3. God will set apart those who seek Him  
Psalm 4:3

4. He will grant great and special joy  
Psalm 4:7; 5:11; 16:11

5. God will especially Surround with His shield of favour  
Psalm 5:12

6. God will be a special Refuge

a) For the oppressed  
Psalm 9:9a

b) For the troubled  
Psalm 9:9b

7. God will never forsake His own  
Psalm 9:10

8. God will never forget His own  
Psalm 9:12

9. God truly Upholds the upright  
Psalm 11:7b

10. God Deals bountifully  
Psalm 13:6

11. God Gives counsel  
Psalm 16:7

12. God Shows path of life  
Psalm 16:11

13. God Shows marvelous lovingkindness  
Psalm 17:7

14. God gives Tremendous Strength  
Psalm 18:1, 32

## **YAG Retreat (31 May- 2 June 2007)**

### **Appendix #1**

#### **CLASSIC TEXTS: “Unanswered Prayer”**

1. Moses’ prayer to enter into the land of Egypt	Deuteronomy 3:23-28
2. Habakkuk’s prayer concerning Judah	Habakkuk 1
3. Jeremiah’s prayer for Judah	Jeremiah 15
4. Daniel’s prayer for further prophetic insight	Daniel 12:8-13
5. Paul’s prayer concerning his infirmity	2 Corinthians 12
6. Jesus’ prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane	Matthew 26:36-46

#### **Important Features Observed**

1. Request(s) made
  - a) Sincerity
  - b) Earnestness
  - c) Faith
  - d) Good existing relationship
  - e) Hope
2. Answer different from that which is expected/hoped for
  - a) Request denied
  - b) God’s greater wisdom and will to be understood
  - c) The petitioner is expected to comprehend and accept God’s word
3. An alternative offered
  - a) God’s revealed word/will

b) Promise of His mercy/grace

4. Comprehension of God's answer

a) Will require wisdom

b) Will require faith

c) Will require submission

d) Will require strength

e) Will require depth

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### Appendix #2

Classic Texts: The Hiding of God's Face

#### Man's Perspective:-

Job

"Why do You hide Your face, and regard me as Your enemy?" Job 13:24

Isaiah

*"Truly You are God, who hide Yourself, O God of Israel, the Saviour!"*

Isaiah 45:15

David

"Why do You stand afar off, O LORD? Why do You hide in times of trouble?"

Psalms 10:1

Sons of Korah

"Why do You hide Your face, and forget our affliction and our oppression?"

Psalms 44:24

*"LORD, why do You cast off my soul? Why do You hide Your face from me"*

Psalms 88:14

Ethan the Ezrahite

*"How long, LORD? Will You hide Your face forever?"*

Psalms 89:46

#### **God's Perspective**

1. God's Sovereign prerogative

*"When you spread out your hands,*

*I will hide My eyes from you;*

*Even though you make many prayers,*

*I will not hear; your hands are full of blood"*      Isaiah 1:15

2. Anger

*"For the iniquity of his covetousness I was angry and struck him;*

*I hid and was angry,*

*And he went backsliding in the way of his heart"*      Isaiah 57:17