Father, in Jesus name,

I pray Lord that every ear that hears this message be opened and a new heart be given, that each of us be able to set our hearts and minds to Love you and praise you and thank you for all things you have given us. I pray Lord for wisdom, knowledge and understanding and discernment of good and evil, and the willingness to depart from evil in all areas of our lives. And to recognize it. I pray you give us strength to remove all ungodliness from us and to be able to walk holy before you with pure hearts in true repentance. May we all learn to Love more Lord. I pray you guide us into all truth and that the truth WILL set us free. We thank you and praise you God

James 4:1-5 From whence *come* wars and fightings among you? *come they* not hence, *even* of your **lusts that war** in your members? 2 Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not. 3 Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume *it* upon your lusts. 4 Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God. 5 Do ye think that the scripture saith in vain, The spirit that dwelleth in us lusteth to envy? 6 But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.

How do we ask God, without asking amiss? How can we be sure that we are asking correctly and not giving ourselves over to the lustful desires in the flesh, and to the lust of devils that reside in our flesh?

Mark12:30-31 And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this *is* the first commandment. 31 And the second *is* like, *namely* this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these.

If we are Loving God, we will be seeking to obey these commandments, and if we are seeking to obey these commandments, we will be praying and asking for such things as bring our lives into agreement with these commands. **If our heart is set toward loving God** and loving others, the things of this world will less important to us, and God will be more important. Knowing God will be our first love,

The things of this world will not capture our heart because we have made HIM our desire. Other things are just not more important to us than our relationship with him.

<u>Titus 3:7</u> That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life

Our hope is an eternal hope, the life we live in the flesh is short, the life we seek is found

in Jesus, he is the way, the only way, he is eternal, the only way to the father is through him. This world has nothing for us that pertains to eternal life, we take nothing of it with us. Friendship with the world is enmity with God.

If we are constantly lusting /wanting /coveting the things of this world, we are **being deceived**. This world and the things in it are going to pass away.

**Philippians 3:14** I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

**2Peter 3:10-13** 10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

11 Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, 12 Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat? 13 Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.

This world and the things in it are going to pass away. They have no value for us in eternity and we take nothing of it with us when we die. When we have an **eternal hope** and set our hope in God, the **things of this world** grow less and less important to us. The heavens and the earth are going to pass away! and the elements melt with a fervent heat! There will be a new heaven and a new earth and God will be there and so will we if we are found in Jesus. He is the way. And he is the ONLY way.

**John 14:6** Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

**Revelation 4:11** Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.

God created each of us as individuals and loves each of us. He gave us all free will to choose to love him or to reject him. We were created for his pleasure! He wants to be with us forever. He longs for us to choose him above all other things! Things that he created for us to enjoy. He wants first place in our hearts, and when **He is first place** we are able to let the things of this world take their proper place. Things that are created by God ----- including ourselves ----- are not to become more important than the One who created them. We are able to thank God for them but none of it, even people, take first place in our hearts above God. We **thank** God for our spouse and family, they are gifts from him, but we don't put them or anything else above God in our hearts. If we do, it is called an idol. We thank God and praise God for all things we have, but never let them become more important than God in our hearts. If we make God first, He can then bless our family and the things we have. If we put these things first above God, They are then idols. The lust of the world. We thank God for these things and give him glory. We keep him above them in our hearts.

<u>Jeremiah 31:3</u> The LORD appeared to him from afar, saying, "I have loved you with an everlasting love; Therefore I have drawn you with lovingkindness.

Earthly things just fade away from being important to us when we realize that none of it will exist in eternity. Our hope and love is placed in God. And when we believe God and trust God and set our hearts to walk in his ways, our relationship with him begins to grow and as it grows we learn to trust him more and more. If we lust and covet after the things of this world, and let our fleshly lusts overtake our love of God we are losing sight of our eternal hope in Jesus Christ. He is the way!

there is no other way! We were created for Gods pleasure, and he longs for us to choose him and love him **above all the things that <u>HE created</u>**. He does not want us to put what he created for us to enjoy, above the One who created those things and the people we love. God wants first place in our hearts, then he blesses the rest.

Romans 1:24-25 24 Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: 25 Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen.

**Psalm 100:2-5 2** Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing. **3**Know ye that the LORD he *is* God: *it is* he *that* hath made us, and not we ourselves; *we are* his people, and the sheep of his pasture. **4** Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, *and* into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, *and* bless his name. **5** For the LORD *is* good; his mercy *is* everlasting; and his truth *endureth* to all generations.

To make sure we Keep God first, we thank Him and praise him for the blessings and people and things we have been given by him. This keeps us from taking our creator for granted. And shows we realize that it is God who has given us what we have.

Philippians 3:18-21 18 (For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, *that they are* the enemies of the cross of Christ: 19 Whose end *is* destruction, whose God *is their* belly, and *whose* glory *is* in their shame, **who mind earthly things**.) 20 For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: 21 Who shall **change our vile body**, that it may be fashioned **like unto his glorious body**, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.

Our hope is in God, in Jesus and in loving God with all our hearts and loving others as ourselves. Jesus died a cruel death for each of us and through this we see Gods love for each of us. He loves us that much, but he gave us free will and so we must make the choice. To love God and seek him ------ or to love the world and seek after the things of this world.

<u>1Peter1:22-25</u> <u>22</u> Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, *see that ye* love one another with a pure heart fervently: <u>23</u> Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.

**24** For all flesh *is* as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away:

**25** But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.

We set our hearts to seek God and put him first.

<u>revelation 2:4</u> Nevertheless I have *somewhat* against thee, because thou hast left thy first love.

When God is our first love, when our heart is seeking to please him, and to know him, then we will begin to want to obey him. And to obey is to love. But love comes from God so we must learn to trust him. We must learn to walk in faith and faith requires that we trust him and trust his word. If we do not trust him, how can we have faith in him?

**Hebrews 11:6 6** But without faith *it is* impossible to please *him*: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and *that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

God rewards those who diligently seek him, but without faith it is impossible to please him. Faith requires us to trust him. Because it consists of things that are not seen or felt. It is trust and believing that God does not lie and that his word is true. It requires us to look past what we see and hear and believe and to simply trust in what God says in his word. Faith reaches into the heavenly realm and brings Gods provision into our lives not with anything we do, but simply by believing he will do it by faith. By trusting him. By trusting his word. When we practice using our faith even in little things and see that God answers our prayers ----- prayed in faith, as we learn to trust him in little things we learn to trust him in bigger things. Our relationship with him grows. And as it grows we then want more of God and want more of his blessings and so repent more and more of the things that the Holy Spirit wants us to deal with. As we do this God can also trust us more with his anointing and gifts. The relationship grows in trust.

**2Corinthians 4:18** While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen *are* temporal; but the things which are not seen *are* eternal.

So we know God wants us to love Him and love others and we know it is impossible to please him without faith.

<u>James 4:2-3</u> <u>2</u> Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not. <u>3</u> Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume *it* upon your lusts

God loves us and is not going to give us things that will draw us away from him. The things in this world draw us away from him. The world and the things in it and the lust of them is the broad way to destruction and God wants to lead us away from destruction and away from satans

temptations. Idols! If we ask amiss, if we ask for things that are idols in our hearts or things that are not causing us to grow closer to the Lord, then God will not want to give us those things. Out of his love for us. If we ask amiss and don't receive, then we may think he doesn't answer prayers and it does not build up our faith.

We know what is important to God by reading his word and seeing the truth. We know God wants us to love him and others, so if we want to build up our trust and faith we know if we pray according to his word he will want to answer that prayer. When he answers, we learn to trust more. If we pray to our heavenly Father to be able to Love him with all our hearts minds souls and strength, he is sure to answer this. But to answer this he will have to remove idols from our hearts. Things, people, pride, hobbies and anything else that is in the way of our relationship with Him. So often he is in the process of answering our prayers, but we do not recognize it. And then we start to not trust that he hears our prayers. When we don't recognize HOW he answers our prayers, we think he doesn't answer prayers. We think we can't trust him. He does answer our prayer but not always as we expect. Sometimes he has to remove things from us or things from our lives that we don't want to remove, he has to do this to answer our prayer! Things like smoking, drinking, fornication lust covetousness and many other things. Then we don't like it, and also don't realize He is just answering our prayer to love him more, and helping us to see how to do it! We love Him more by removing idols. It is all worth it. Our hope is in Him. Not in our idols. Our idols want to drag us to destruction. No good thing dwells in our flesh.

<u>Colossians 3:5</u> <u>5</u>Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:

God may begin asking us to deal with these things in order to love more.

So God is answering our prayer but we find ourself suddenly needing to deal with these things that are wrong in our lives, and it all feels unpleasant. If we have covetousness for instance and God begins to convict us of it, then we can repent of it and choose not to covet that thing whatever it is. We then pray and ask God to take this thing from our heart and if we really mean it and believe, he will do it. And then we will trust him more.

We have exercised our faith and learned that God answers prayer. We build trust and faith. Even though sometimes the way he answers is not the way we wanted. We wanted him to just zap us with a miracle and give us more love. But Gods way are not our ways. He wants to make us whole in mind, body and soul. He wants to remove every devil in our flesh. He is a jealous God. He doesn't want to share us with demons.

<u>Isaiah 55:6-9</u> <u>6</u>Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near:

<u>7</u>Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

**8**For my thoughts *are* not your thoughts, neither *are* your ways my ways, saith the LORD.

**2**For *as* the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

**Psalm 78:58** For they provoked him to anger with their high places, and moved him to jealousy with their graven images.

What are the high places in our hearts and minds? What are the images that satan has graven into our minds that we covet and lust after? What is in our hearts that we don't want to give up? things that exalt themselves against the knowledge of God?

**Hebrews 4:12** For the word of God *is* quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and *is* a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

As we read the word of God it helps us discern, with the Holy Spirits help, the idols and high places in our hearts that have us in bondage. And it helps us discern the graven images in our minds that are not of God but are of the devil. When we see something the Lord shows us is wrong in our thinking or lives, we get to choose whether we will co-operate with God or whether we will keep our idols and not turn away from them. Remember though. Our hope is an eternal one! These idols and things will pass away and have no value to us when we leave these bodies. God is eternal, our hope is in Him! in redemption, sanctification, and salvation. Our idols only offer destruction and wrath and perdition.

**Psalm 2:12** Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish *from* the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed *are* all they that put their trust in him.

Hebrews 10:38-39 38 Now the just shall live by faith: but if *any man* draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.

<u>39</u> But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that **believe to the saving of the soul.** 

If we choose to deal with what the Holy Spirit convicts us of, we get to exercise and learn how to walk in faith. We are like children in the spirit, we are learning to walk in faith just as we learned to walk and talk when were were babies in the flesh. We can say -----"ok God I choose to repent and be rid of this thing from my life. I confess this thing as sin and ask forgiveness in Jesus name and I ask you Lord to take it from me and heal me. This is works of faith/trusting and believing Jesus has won the victory over this thing, and as we humble ourselves and pray and ask him, He gives us the victory. We must set our heart against this thing, because God knows our hearts and if we truly are turning from this thing. If we are not truly repenting and turning from it, He knows and He won't go against our will, because he gave us all free will. We must choose. And we must truly repent **from the heart** and **turn from it**. Then he will heal us and this thing will no longer have Dominion over us. We will be set free of that thing. And that devil. We are now able to command that devil to leave and go to Jesus for judgement. Jesus gave us this authority.

**Luke 10:19** Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

**Romans 6:22** But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.

There are many high places in our lives that the Holy Spirit would like us to remove. But each time we choose to remove one, we become that much more free, and that much more holy, and that much more like our Lord and savior. And with each victory we remove things that we thought we loved, but find as we are set free of them that they were in fact a bondage. Things that exalt themselves against the knowledge of God are actually bondages! As we learn this we learn to trust God and trust his word. And as we remove these high places and graven images, from our hearts, we are more and more able to love, more and more, as we ask and pray for God to fill us with his love.

**2John 1:6** And this is love, that we walk after his commandments. This is the commandment, That, as ye have heard from the beginning, ye should walk in it.

Do we want to ask amiss? If our hearts are on the things of this world instead of God and of the things of God, we will ask amiss. We must not let devils drag our hearts to the love of the world. We must learn to trust God and yearn for the things he tells us to seek after. He created us, he knows what is good for us. He is eternal, our hope is in Jesus.

Colossians 1:9-14 9 For this cause we also, since the day we heard *it*, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be <u>filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; 10</u> That ye might <u>walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing</u>, being <u>fruitful in every good work</u>, and <u>increasing in the knowledge of God; 11 Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness; 12 <u>Giving thanks</u> unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light:</u>

13 Who hath delivered us from the **power** of darkness, and hath translated *us* into the kingdom of his dear Son: 14 In whom we have redemption through his blood, *even* the forgiveness of sins:

Ask God for these things. But remember, he may not answer our prayers the way we want or expect. But he will answer, **if our heart is right before him**. the getting and answering of these prayers can be painful to the flesh and it may be hard to endure the fiery trial. It's a trial of our faith and the rewards are eternal, and not temporal like the lusts of this world are.

<u>12</u> Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: <u>13</u> But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy. <u>14</u> If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy *are ye*; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified

Each time we remove sin and iniquity from our lives, we gain confidence in our holy faith and we grow closer to God and learn to trust him more as we see him answering our Godly prayers. Prayers that are truly seeking to know him and place him in the high place of our hearts. We then see him working in our lives, and doubting him and doubting his word begins to fade away. And the devil screams as he sees his grip on us being destroyed. As we remove satans graven images and

beliefs and bondages, as we let go of unforgiveness, bitterness, hurt pain, emotional scars, as we ask God for healing in these things and as we repent and see him work in our lives, because we are wanting what brings us closer to him and to Love. We trust him more and love him more and love his word more and his ways more. Our faith grows and our trust grows. And satan can't do a thing about it. Because God answers Godly prayer. We have dominion over the devil and when we resist he must flee!

James 4:7-10
7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. 8 Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse *your* hands, *ye* sinners; and purify *your* hearts, *ye* double minded. 9 Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and *your* joy to heaviness. 10 Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

Colossians 1:15-23 15 Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: 16 For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether *they be* thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: 17 And he is before all things, and by him all things consist. 18 And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all *things* he might have the preeminence. 19 For it pleased *the Father* that in him should all fulness dwell; 20 And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, *I say*, whether *they be* things in earth, or things in heaven.

21 And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in *your* mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled 22 In the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unreproveable in his sight: 23 If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister;

<u>Titus 1:2</u> In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began;

Our hope is in an eternal God, and as we seek him and his ways he will not let us down. If we continue in the faith. 
If we believe Him. 
If we trust Him.

Gods word is the truth. Our hearts and minds can be deceived. Trust his Word. Trust the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit will always agree with the Word of God.

We can trust our God, he cannot lie.

Father, in Jesus name,

I pray Lord that every ear that hears this message be opened and a new heart be given, that each of us be able to set our hearts and minds to Love you and praise you and thank you for all things you have given us. I pray Lord for wisdom, knowledge and understanding and discernment of good and evil, and the willingness to depart from evil in all areas of our lives. And to recognize it. I pray you give us strength to remove all ungodliness from us and to be able to walk holy before you with pure hearts in true repentance. May we all learn to Love more Lord. I pray you guide us into all truth and that the truth WILL set us free. We thank you and praise you God