

Philippians 4:13



Words to Find:
I
can
do
all
things
through
Christ
which
strengtheneth
me.

They Learned God Answers Prayer

Sunday School Times

A young man, who was not a Christian, and knew nothing of prayer, had been on a torpedoed ship during World War II. All on board were thrust out into the water to swim for their lives.

Twelve of the boys kept together. Horrified they saw a lake of burning oil coming toward them. It was impossible to es-

cape.



Just then, the only Christian in the group began to pray aloud. It was the heart cry of one in dire need to the God of mercy whom he knew. "O God, save us! O God, save us! O God, save us!"

Soon the other eleven, who had never known or thought about God, followed aloud with, "Please God! Please God!"

Immediately the flaming oil

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The **Bible View**

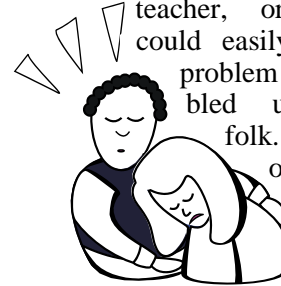



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Fixer of Broken Things

Bill Brinkworth

As a child, when something was broken, usually an adult would fix it. It seemed whatever happened, an adult, be it parent, teacher, or neighbor, could easily solve the problem that troubled us younger folk. As I got older, there were problems that an adult could not



fix. They tried, and gave it their best attempt, but their solutions did not work. Many times, they shook their heads and admitted they had the same thing broken in their own lives and did not know how to repair it for themselves.

After I was saved, I did learn that there was one that could fix situations and dilemmas that no other could fix. It was not the psychiatrist, for they had their own unfixable problems. It was not the pills of the doctors, for they many times fixed only the

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Not Always Answered Our Way

Home Messenger

One day a woman was giving her little nephew a lesson. He was generally a good, attentive child, but on this occasion, he could not fix his mind on his work. Suddenly he said, "Auntie, may I kneel down and ask God to help me find my marble?"

His aunt gave her consent. The little boy knelt by his chair, closed his eyes, and prayed silently. Then he rose and went on with his lesson contented.

Next day, almost afraid of asking the question lest the child had not found his toy, and so might lose his simple faith, she asked, "Well, dear, have you found your marble?"

"No, Auntie," was the reply, "but God has made me not want to." God does not always answer our prayers in the way we wish or expect, but if we are sincere, He will take from us the desire for what is contrary to His holy will.

"When has any man of prayer told us that prayer has failed him?"

— George Bernanos

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Fixer of Broken Things

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symptoms and not the root of the problem. It was not the wisdom of the teachers, for many of them had no idea or experience to fix many of the traumas one faced in this life. It was the wisdom delivered by God that could fix anything!

“Unfixable” things could be fixed by following the advice in His word read from the Bible, heard from the preaching of His word, or even gleaned from biblically-related writings. His wisdom has helped billions upon billions. Our heavenly Father has raised trillions. His advice, when obeyed, can fix many broken things in our lives. His Word advises us how to fix:

☹ Broken hearts and feelings:

“The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.” Psalms 34:18 He can be close to those that have had their hearts broken by tragedy, rejection, or disappointment. Not only can He be with you when you go through the valley of despair, he can help you get the victory

☹ Broken confidences:

“And they that know thy name will put their trust in thee: for thou, LORD, hast not forsaken them that seek thee.” Psalms

9:10 Others may fail you, but God never will neglect one of His children. He promises “...I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.” (Hebrews 13:5)

☹ Broken Lives:

“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.” II Corinthians 5:17 If you have come to a point in your life where you have realized you have messed up your life, God can change you from the inside out and give you a second chance.

☹ Broken fellowships, relationships and even a broken body of poor health:

“For with God nothing shall be impossible.” Luke 1:37 When all earthly hope seems to have vanished, there is a God that can do anything, and can change any situation.

Not all things that are “broken” should be fixed. There are times things need to stay broken and discarded. Sometimes they are allowed to be “broken”, because if something is not changed our life will not be what it should or could be. That is why God’s help is the only one we should seek. He loves us the most and desires only what is good for us and our relationship

with Him. His intervention and direction are the best for us. If God’s discernment is that what we have in our lives that has gone wrong needs fixing, He is also the only one that can fix anything. If it is best for you and in God’s will, God can be the fixer of what is broken in your life. There is hope!

His Strength When We Are Weak

Author Unknown

In the play, *The Barretts of Wimpole Street*, Elizabeth asked her husband Robert, “O Robert, how can you love me when you are so strong, and I am so weak?”

He replied, “Elizabeth, my strength needs your weakness just as much as your weakness needs my strength.”

II Corinthians 12:9 teaches a similar relationship between a believer and God, *“And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.”*

Where He Learned the Most

Christian Digest

The Pilgrim reported Dr. Harry A. Ironside, as a young preacher, visited the aged Alexander Fraser. Harry listened, enthralled, as one truth after another from God’s Word was opened up by Mr. Fraser until he

“I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.”

— Philippians 4:13

could restrain himself no more and cried out, “Where did you learn these things?”

“On my knees on the mud floor of a little sod cottage in the north of Ireland,” replied Mr. Fraser. “There with my Bible open before me, I used to kneel for hours at a time, and ask the Spirit of God to reveal Christ to my soul and to pen the Word to my heart. He taught me more on my knees on that mud floor than I could ever have learned in all the colleges and seminaries in the world.”

They Learned God ...

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parted, leaving a clear, wide path directly in front of them. Right in the middle of their cleared path, God provided a raft for them to survive on.

The lad, who told the story ended with, “And no one can persuade those boys that God does not hear prayer.”

“Every time we say, ‘I believe in the Holy Spirit,’ we mean that we believe that there is a living God able and willing to enter human personality and change it.”

— J. B. Phillips

“You cannot trace the guidance of the Spirit of God, or diagnose His operations in the secret rooms of the soul. He seems at times to let good go, and to bring good out of evil, and light into darkness.”

— R. Benson