



"This is the confidence we have in approaching God..." 1 John 5:14a NIV

*Parrēsia (**confidence**) literally means:
 "freedom of speech"; boldness; openness*

What CONFIDENT Prayer Means To Me:

#1. I know that God HEARS my prayer.

"... he hears us. And if we know that he hears us..." 1 John 5:14d-15a NIV

#2. I know that God answers my prayer WITHOUT LIMIT.

"... that if we ask anything... - whatever we ask - ..." 1 John 5:14b,15b NIV

Jesus: "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened." Matthew 7:7-8 NIV

#3. I know that God grants my prayer BEFORE I CAN SEE IT ACCOMPLISHED.

"We know that we have what we asked of him." 1 John 5:15c NIV

How To Be CONFIDENT In My Prayer:

#1. I ask with God's will IN PRIORITY OVER my will.

"... according to his will..." 1 John 5:14c NIV

The goal of prayer is not to GRATIFY MY SELFISH DESIRES

but to ALIGN MY WILL to GOD'S PURPOSES. (James 4:3)

#2. I ask as a BELIEVER in CONFESSION with OBEDIENCE and FAITH.

(1 John 3:21-22; John 15:7; Psalm 66:18; John 14:13-14; Matthew 6:10; James 5:14-16)

How Should I Respond to 1 John 5:16-18?

"If you see any brother or sister commit a sin that does not lead to death, you should pray and God will give them life. I refer to those whose sin does not lead to death. There is a sin that leads to death I am not saying that you should pray about that. All wrongdoing is sin, and there is a sin that does not lead to death. We know that anyone born of God does not continue to sin." 1 John 5:16-18a

Focus on WHAT IS CLEAR in Scripture.

What is clear about these verses:

#1 - I should pray for MY FELLOW CHRIST-FOLLOWERS.

#2 - God takes sin SERIOUSLY so I'd better do the same.

#3 - As a genuine Christ-follower I will not CONTINUE TO SIN.