

## Find God's Power In Prayer

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I found the following story in an old book someone gave to me.

One April Sunday night in 1912, an American lady could not fall asleep even though she was very tired. She tossed and turned, distressed by some unknown fear. As the night wore on, she felt burdened to pray for her husband who was in route across the Atlantic from England. As the hours passed, she prayed deeply but found no relief. Her prayer became an agony of struggle against the unknown fear. Finally, at about 5:00 a.m., she felt a great peace and drifted off into sleep.

Meanwhile, her husband was among the hundreds who were stranded on the doomed Titanic. As the great ship began to sink, he gave up all hope of being rescued and turned his attention towards helping the women and children escape in the remaining lifeboats.

As he worked, his heart ached to send one last message to his beloved wife. "Good-by, my darling," he cried silently over and over.

He clung to the top of the ship as it turned vertically and began its last silent plunge towards the ocean depths. As the giant whirlpool sucked him under the icy water, he instinctively began to swim. Unexpectedly, he escaped the pull of the sinking ship and surfaced next to an over-turned lifeboat. Along with a few others, he climbed aboard. Later he was picked up by another lifeboat.

When he arrived home some days later he discovered that the moment his wife had found peace in her prayer was the same time that he had been rescued by the passing lifeboat.

There is a lot of power in prayer. One survey found that 99% of all physicians recognize that belief and faith can help heal the body. Seventy-five percent of physicians believe that the prayers of others can help a patient's recovery.

The Bible says that *"our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms"* (Ephesians 6:12).

Some years ago, demolition crews were removing an old building. As they dug around the foundation, they were curious why a large water pipe extended about four feet out from the building and then stopped.

To their amazement they found that the pipe was the inflow for the entire sprinkling system. It had never been connected. If a fire had occurred those who occupied the building would have been sadly surprised.

In the same way, many people never take time to tap into the divine power that is available to them. When the troubles of life come they may cry out for God's help but because they have not developed a prayer connection with God He often seems far away.

The best way to find God's power in prayer is to build a relationship with him before problems come. A good way to start is by worshipping in church this Sunday.