

## **The Power of Prayer**

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Oftentimes I catch myself hurrying through worship and prayer in class so that I can get to the “important” things that my students need to learn during the day. When I am in less of a rush, I take time to ask the students for prayer requests and anything else they would like me to pray about. Most of the time, the students ask for help with school work, help with family problems, or other issues that seem to be bothering them. I always wonder how each of their requests turn out.

During the last class period one day, one of my students asked me for a number of specific requests. What surprised me was that this particular student was not an Adventist student. She was quite shy and did not speak up much in class when religion was discussed. I said the prayer in front of the class and we continued with our routine, not thinking anything else about the prayer.

The next day, this student who I will call Julie, came racing into class with a huge smile on her face.

“Mr. Berdan, something really exciting happened. Everything that you prayed for worked out the way I was hoping for. Your prayer really worked!”

She continued to tell me that she had taken my advice and really believed that God could answer her requests and work in her life. This testimony lead me into a discussion about how God does work in our lives if we only allow Him into our hearts.

Even though this may seem like a really simple example, it really reinforced to me the importance of taking the time to give the students an opportunity to ask God specifically for things that they need. If we ask God for specific things that we need help with in our lives and believe that he can work wonders on our behalf, we are well on the way to witnessing God work wonders in our lives.

As Paul writes in the first book of Thessalonians, we must pray without ceasing and in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.