

The Great and Powerful

The scarecrow, tin man, cowardly lion, and Dorothy finally were granted their audience with the “great and powerful Oz.” At least, that is how he described himself. There is some confidence when requests are made to someone as powerful as Oz as he appeared to be. Smoke, a booming voice and larger-than-life figure, surely pointed to Oz as having the power to grant their wishes. Their confidence was dashed when Toto pulled back the curtain, revealing a mere mortal pretending to have the answers. They instantly realized that Oz couldn’t fulfill their wishes.



We have an audience with the Creator of the World. There is no one hiding behind the curtain, putting on a deceptive smoke and light show. God is the real deal. And, He is great and powerful. God created the world – the stars in the sky, the waters of the sea, the mountains, the people around you, and the Savior who exchanged His earthly life for yours. You have a direct line of communication with the all-powerful God through prayer.

God has “unlimited resources, wisdom, power, and He genuinely cares for you.” It doesn’t get any better than this. He knows and loves you personally. You don’t need to introduce yourself or give Him the backstory of your prayer petitions. He knows. You don’t need to knock on the door and be told, “go away,” as our characters were in the Wizard of Oz. God invites you in. *Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you (Matthew 7:7).* Unlike the wizard, God knows what’s around the corner in your life. He knows what you are going through now. Also, God has the wisdom not to merely give you what you ask. He knows how the things you request of Him will impact your family, friends, and neighbors. God is invested in you because He created you. He has big plans for you and your future – plans that are bigger and better than anything you could ever dream up on your own. When your prayers align with His will, He promises to fulfill them.

Your prayers are the ultimate relationship with God – talking and listening to Him. “We are free to come to God to share our deepest and most private joys, pains, thoughts, and feelings without having to impress someone or be fearful of criticism. And God comes to us in various ways to assure us of His love, peace, and help.” Trust in the Lord.

Prayer is a privilege. It is not something to be earned, as Dorothy and her friends had to do on their journey to the Emerald City. Let your prayer be the very first step as you seek to be what God intended for you. (Read Jeremiah 29:11).

Dorothy, the tin man, cowardly lion, and scarecrow, faced many challenges on the road to the Emerald City. They were alone against all the enemies. We are never alone as we walk the difficult paths of our lives. “*And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.*” (Matthew 28:20b). When they asked the wizard for a brain, a heart, and courage, they were told they already had all they needed. In reality, a relationship with God is all we need. There is “no place like home” – the eternal home we seek with the Lord. There is no need to tap your heels together three times. Just go to the Lord in prayer.

Question: How well do think your prayers align your will with God’s will?

Quotes are from Prayer, When You Don’t Know What to Say, by Lutheran Hour Ministries. References to the Wizard of Oz are from recollections from the movie.