

Lord Teach Us To Pray

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WHAT IS PRAYER?

Prayer simply put, is the breath of life to a believers spiritual walk with God. It is by prayer that you attain eternal life; it is by prayer that God meets your needs and even your desires; prayer, is the ultimate worship of God. Jesus Christ prayed to his Father continually. In its most simple form prayer is conversation with God.

Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. (Jam. 5:16)

Christian Doctrine: (both Jew and Gentile)

For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ. For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit. For the body is not one member, but many.
(1 Cor. 12:12-14)

Prayer is the expression of man's dependence upon Jesus for all things. What habitual reverence is to praise, the habitual sense of dependence is to prayer. "Prayer, or communion with God, arises from a deep sense of need, helplessness, and unworthiness, with that, there also comes an assurance of divine fullness and love, which enlarges our petitions and brings confidence of answers to our prayers.

Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven. (Matt. 10:32,33)

He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me. He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it. He that receiveth you receiveth me, and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me. (Matt. 10:37-40)

Requisites:

Prayer requires sincerity, repentance, consecration, faith, and submission to the will of God.

If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But **let him ask in faith, nothing wavering.** For he that wavereth is **like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.** For let not that man **think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.** **A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.** (Jam. 1:5-8)

Prayer is Conditional you must have Faith (simply means to believe God)

But **without faith it is impossible to please him:** for **he that cometh to God must believe that he is,** and **that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.**
(Heb. 11:6)

That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt **believe in thine heart** that God hath raised him from the dead, **thou shalt be saved.** For **with the heart man believeth unto righteousness;** and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the scripture saith, Whosoever **believeth on him shall not be ashamed.** For **there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek:** for **the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him.** For whosoever shall **call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.** (Rom. 10:9-13)

You Must Confess your Sin and Ask for Forgiveness

If I had not confessed the sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened.
But God did listen! **He paid attention to my prayer.** Praise God, who **did not ignore my prayer or withdraw his unfailing love from me.** (Psalm 66:18-20) NLT

How **blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven,** Whose **sin is covered!** How **blessed is the man to whom the LORD does not impute iniquity,** And in whose **spirit there is no deceit!** When **I kept silent about my sin, my body wasted away** Through my groaning all day long. For day and night **Thy hand was heavy upon me;** **My vitality was drained away** as with the fever heat of summer. **I acknowledged my sin to Thee,** And **my iniquity I did not hide;** I said, “**I will confess my transgressions to the LORD**”; And **Thou didst forgive the guilt of my sin.** (Psa. 32:1-5) NASB

That is why the LORD says, “**Turn to me now, while there is time.** Give me your hearts. Come with fasting, weeping, and mourning. Don’t tear your clothing in your grief, but **tear your hearts instead.**” **Return to the LORD your God,** for **he is merciful and compassionate,** slow to get angry and **filled with unfailing love.** **He is eager to relent and not punish.** (Joel 2:12,13) NLT

I prayed to the LORD my God **and confessed**: “O Lord, you are a great and awesome God! You always fulfill your covenant and keep your promises of unfailing love to those who love you and obey your commands. But **we have sinned and done wrong. We have rebelled against you and scorned your commands and regulations.**

(Dan. 9:4,5) NLT

You Must have a Clear Conscience

Cling to your faith in Christ, and **keep your conscience clear**. For some people have **deliberately violated their consciences**; as a result, **their faith has been shipwrecked**. Hymenaeus and Alexander are two examples. I threw them out and **handed them over to Satan so they might learn not to blaspheme God**. (1 Tim. 1:19,20) NLT

(Paul); And **I believe, just as these men do**, that there will be a resurrection of both the righteous and ungodly. Because of this I try with all my strength to always maintain **a clear conscience before God and man**. (Acts 24:16,17) TLB

What Jesus Told Us About Prayer (how to pray)

Ask, **using my name**, and **you will receive**, and your cup of joy will overflow. I have spoken of these matters very guardedly, but the time will come when this will not be necessary and **I will tell you plainly all about the Father**. Then you will **present your petitions over my signature**! And **I won't need to ask the Father to grant you these requests**, for **the Father himself loves you dearly because you love me and believe that I came from the Father**. (John 16:23-27) TLB

And he spake a parable unto them to the end **that they ought always to pray, and not to faint**; saying, There was in a city a judge, who feared not God, and regarded not man: and there was a widow in that city; and she came oft unto him, saying, Avenge me of mine adversary. And he would not for a while: but afterward he said within himself, Though I fear not God, nor regard man; yet because this widow troubleth me, I will avenge her, lest she wear me out by her continual coming. And the Lord said, Hear what the unrighteous judge saith. And **shall not God avenge his elect, that cry to him day and night, and yet he is longsuffering over them**? I say unto you, that **he will avenge them speedily**. Nevertheless, when the Son of man cometh, **shall he find faith on the earth**? (Luke 18:1-8) ASV

“When you pray, don’t be like the hypocrites who love to pray publicly on street corners and in the synagogues where everyone can see them. I tell you the truth, that is all the reward they will ever get. But when you pray, go away by yourself, shut the door behind you, and pray to your Father in private. Then your Father, who sees everything, will reward you. “When you pray, don’t babble on and on as people of other religions do. They think their prayers are answered merely by repeating their words again and again. Don’t be like them, for your Father knows exactly what you need even before you ask him! (Matt. 6:5-8) NLT

Don’t worry about anything; instead, pray about everything; tell God your needs and don’t forget to thank him for his answers. If you do this you will experience God’s peace, which is far more wonderful than the human mind can understand. His peace will keep your thoughts and your hearts quiet and at rest as you trust in Christ Jesus. (Phil. 4:6,7) TLB

And in the same way - by our faith - the Holy Spirit helps us with our daily problems and in our praying. For we don’t even know what we should pray for, nor how to pray as we should; but the Holy Spirit prays for us with such feeling that it cannot be expressed in words. And the Father who knows all hearts knows, of course, what the Spirit is saying as he pleads for us in harmony with God’s own will. (Rom. 8:26,27)

Prayer in the Life of JESUS

And in the early morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house, and went away to a secluded place, and prayed there for a time. Simon and his companions eagerly searched for Him; and they found Him and said to Him, “Everyone is looking for You.” He said to them, “Let’s go somewhere else to the towns nearby, so that I may also preach there; for this is why I came.” (Mark 1:35-38)

NASB

Now when He arrived at the place, He said to them, “Pray that you do not come into temptation.” And He withdrew from them about a stone’s throw, and He knelt down and began to pray, saying, “Father, if You are willing, remove this cup from Me; yet not My will, but Yours be done.” [Now an angel from heaven appeared to Him, strengthening Him. And being in agony, He was praying very fervently; and His sweat became like drops of blood, falling down upon the ground].

When He rose from prayer, He came to the disciples and found them sleeping from sorrow, and He said to them, “**Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray that you do not come into temptation.**” (Luke 22:40-46) NASB

- 1. Jesus went to pray early in the morning! (prayer was first and foremost)*
- 2. Jesus went to a secluded place! (we call that today our private prayer closet)*
- 3. Jesus prayed kneeling to the Father! (sign of submission and reverence)*
- 4. Jesus always obeyed the will of His Father! (listen to what the Holy Spirit is saying)*
- 5. Jesus prayed fervently, even in agony! (praying through, with perseverance)*
- 6. Jesus prayed alone before His Father! (He did not need a prayer team)*

Ask, and it shall be given you; **seek**, and ye shall find; **knock**, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. (Matt. 7:7,8)

Ask, Seek, knock, are present active verbs: this means to ask and keep on asking. To seek and keep on seeking. To knock and keep on knocking. God hears your prayer and will answer at the right time! Remember, pray according to His will (The Word) and listen to what the Holy Spirit is telling you.

And **this is the confidence that we have in him**, that, **if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us**: And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, **we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him**. (1 John 5:14,15)