

During the second World War, a pilot shot down in the Pacific Ocean, floated for some time on a rubber raft without being found. Finally, in desperation he prayed this prayer, "Dear God, I haven't asked you for anything for twenty years. If you hear my prayer and send someone to rescue me; I won't trouble you for another twenty years." One writer has said that too many treat God like a lawyer or a physician. They go to Him only when they are in trouble or sick. Many people think of prayer as being something to save until a person is in great trouble and cannot find help anywhere else.

Prayer is the means by which those who live on earth can communicate with their heavenly Father. Christ, while here on earth, missed the daily communion with God that He had enjoyed while in heaven. He spent whole nights in prayer, for this was His way of talking to His Father. Adam, before he fell, was able to walk and talk with God every evening. Sin separated man from face-to-face communion with his heavenly Father, but God then gave man the privilege to talk with Him in prayer. What a privilege it is to commune with our Father at any time and under any circumstances. God longs for us to open

our hearts to Him and bring our problems to Him for His help. Let's discover how we can talk with God and be sure that our prayers are heard and will be answered.

1. What did the disciples ask Jesus to do for them? Luke 11:1 -

Note: Like the disciples, we need to learn from God to pray as Christ prayed, that God might hear and answer our petitions.

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2.	vvno	should	we pra	av to?	Luke	11:2 -	•

3. In whose name can we confidently approach the throne of God in prayer? **John 14:6 & 14** -

Note: It is through the merit of Christ's perfect life that we can confidently approach God in prayer.

- 4. With what should our prayers be mingled? Philippians 4:6 -
- 5. How sincerely must we seek God in prayers? Jeremiah 29:12-13 -

What assurance do we have that God will hear and answer our prayers				
Matthew 7:7-8 - "Ask"				
"Seek"				
"Knock"				
7. How willing is God to answer the prayers of His people? Matthew 7:11 -				
8. What help is promised to the child of God that his prayers might be understood and answered by God? Romans 8:26 -				
9. What condition did Christ say is necessary before our prayers will be heard? Mark 11:24 -				
10. If we lack faith when we pray, what does the Bible say will be the result? James 1:6-7 -				
11. What petitions may we expect God to answer: 1 John 5:14-15 -				
12. Why are some of our prayers not answered as we would like? James 4:3 -				
13. Under what conditions does the Lord refuse to hear our prayers? Psalm 66:18 -				
14. Whose prayers will be an abomination to the Lord? Proverbs 28:9 -				

15. How often should Christians pray? Ephesians 6:18, 1 Thess. 5:1	7 -
16. When did David set aside special times for prayer? Psalm 55:13	

One writer has said that prayer is the opening of the heart to God as to a friend. It is sharing life's joys and woes with One who loves and cares. What a privilege to share our innermost thoughts with God!

During any holiday season it can be hard to contact loved ones because most land lines are busy with a multitude of calls across the country, or networks are busy and mobile after mobile goes to voicemail. What a privilege it is to talk to one that is near and dear to you, even though you are



separated by many miles. Millions of pounds are spent each year by the British public because they want to talk to those they love. It costs nothing but a little time spent on our knees to talk to the King of the Universe. How often we carry needless burdens and problems because we have not taken the time to pray!

Let us decide today that our prayer life is going to be a rich, rewarding experience as we use it to become acquainted with our God.

The lines to the King of the Universe are never busy; there is always an opening for our sincere prayer.

With God's help, I will spend some time each day in prayer. I want to learn how to pray effectively.

This study	has been	faithfully up	dated fron	the original	"The Bible Speaks"	1
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