

God's Word on Prayer (ESV) compiled by John Raphael, jdr2215@hotmail.com



- God wants us to pray.
- God hears our prayers.
- God answers our prayers.
- It is our job, duty & pleasure to pray.
- Answered prayers are the only sure way to know we have prayed "aright".

Psalm 37:5,6,27 *"Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act. He will bring forth your righteousness as the light, and your justice as the noonday. Turn away from evil and do good; so shall you dwell forever."*

Luke 11:1, *"Lord, teach us to pray!"* – prayer is a learned skill and hard work, but God meets us where we are.

God wants us to pray! (It is our job, duty & pleasure to pray)

- Matt 5:44, "... pray for those who persecute you."
- Matt 7:7, "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you;"
- Matt 21:13, "My house shall be called a house of prayer."
- Luke 6:28, "... pray for those who abuse you."
- Luke 18:1, "pray always and don't lose heart."
- Luke 19:46, "My house shall be a house of prayer."
- Luke 22:40, "Pray that you may not enter into temptation."
- John 17:9, "I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are yours."
- Acts 12:5, "Peter was kept in prison, but earnest prayer for him was made to God by the church."
- Rom 12:12, "Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer."
- Eph 6:18, "Praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints."
- Phil 4:6, "do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."
- Col 1:9,10, "we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God."
- 1 Tim 2:1, "I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people."
- 1 Thess 5:18, "pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Jesus for you."
- James 1:5, "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God."
- James 4:7, "Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double."
- James 5:14, "Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him."
- James 5:16, "Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working."
- 1 John 5:14, "if we ask anything according to his will he hears us."
- 1 Sam 12:23, "far be it from me that I should sin against the Lord by ceasing to pray for you."
- 2 Chronicles 7:14, "If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land."
- Isaiah 56.7, "for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples."

God hears our prayers, "if":

- Matt 6:6, "When you pray, go into your room, shut the door and pray to your Father in secret."
- Matt 6:7, "When you pray, don't say meaningless things."
- Matt 18:19, "if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by My father in heaven."
- Matt 21:22, "Whatever you ask in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith."
- Mark 1:35, "And rising very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he departed and went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed."

- Mark 11:25, "Whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone..."
- Luke 9:18, "Now it happened that as he (Jesus) was praying alone..."
- Luke 12:48, "to whomsoever much is given, of him shall much be required."
- Luke 18:10,14, "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortionists, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted."
- John 9:31, "We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him."
- John 15:7, "If you abide in me and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you."
- John 15:16, "I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit – fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name."
- John 16:23, "My father will give you anything you ask in my name."
- Romans 8:26, "we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us."
- Eph 6:18, "And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints."
- 1 Tim 2:8, "I desire then that in every place the men should pray, lifting holy hands without anger or quarreling."
- 2 Tim 2:15, "present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth."
- Hebrews 4:16, "Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need."
- Hebrews 4:22, "...for He who promised is faithful."
- Heb 5:7, "In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence."
- Heb 11:6, "...without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him."
- James 4:3, "You ask, & do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions."
- 1 Peter 3:7, "husbands, live with your wives in an understanding way ... so that your prayers may not be hindered."
- 1 John 3:22, "...whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments & do what pleases him."
- 1 John 5:14, "...if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us – whatever we ask – we know that we have what we asked of him."
- Ps 32:6, "let everyone who is godly pray to you while you may be found; surely when the mighty waters rise, they will not reach him."
- Ps 50:15, "call on me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you will honor me."

If we pray privately, humble, forgiving, holy, faithful & persistent; asking Him to reveal His will; helping us do it.

Answered prayers *tell us we have prayed successfully, building our faith, so may help to build the faith of others.*

- Matt 26:39, "... he (Jesus) fell on his face and prayed, saying, 'My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will'."
- Mark 10:51, Jesus asks, "What do you want me to do for you?"
- Luke 4:10, "For it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you to guard you carefully;'"
- Luke 9:29-31, "as he (Jesus) was praying, the appearance of his face was altered, and his clothing became dazzling white. And behold, two men were talking with him, Moses and Elijah, who appeared in glory."
- Luke 18:6, "And will not God give justice to his elect, who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them? I tell you, he will give justice to them speedily."
- Luke 22:41-44, "he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, and knelt down and prayed, saying, Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done. And there appeared to him an angel from heaven, strengthening him. And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly; and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground."
- Luke 23:46, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit."

- John 8:29, Jesus said, “he who sent me is with me. He has not left me alone, for I always do the things that are pleasing to him.”
 - John 14:22, Jesus said, “If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.”
 - John 15:16, Jesus said, “You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you.”
 - Acts 9:11, “he (Saul) is praying, 12 and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.”
 - Acts 9:40-41, “But Peter put them all outside, and knelt down and prayed; and turning to the body he said, ‘Tabitha, arise’. And she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter she sat up. And he gave her his hand and raised her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he presented her alive.”
 - Acts 10:30, “Cornelius said, Four days ago, about this hour, I was praying in my house at the ninth hour, and behold, a man stood before me in bright clothing 31 and said, Cornelius, your prayer has been heard and your alms have been remembered before God.”
 - Acts 16:25-26, “About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them, and suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken. And immediately all the doors were opened, and everyone's bonds were unfastened.”
 - 2 Cor 1:11, “You also must help us by prayer, so that many will give thanks on our behalf for the blessing granted us through the prayers of many.”
 - Eph 3:20, “Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us,”
 - 1 Thess 2:13, “... we still give praise to God, that, when the word came to your ears through us, you took it, not as the word of man, but, as it truly is, the word of God, which has living power in you who have faith.”
 - Heb 7:21, “...he (Jesus) is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.”
 - James 1:17, “Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth.”
 - Ex 22:23, “I will certainly hear their cry.”
 - Ex 33:17, And the Lord said to Moses, “I will do the very thing you have asked, because I am pleased with you and I know you by name.”
 - Job 22:27, “You will pray to him, and he will hear you ...”
 - Job 33:26, “He prays to God and finds favor with him, he
 - Daniel 18, 21, “O my God, incline your ear and hear. Open your eyes and see our desolations, ...we do not present our pleas before you because of our righteousness, but because of your great mercy... then Gabriel came, saying to me, ‘I have come to tell you that you are greatly loved.’”
 - Jonah 2:1, “I called out to the Lord, out of my distress, and he answered me.”
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- *E. M. Bounds wrote, “Unanswered prayers are training schools for unbelief. Answered prayers are the only sure way we have to know we prayed aright. **A proper prayer moves the arm that moves the universe.** All things from God are given in answer to prayer. If you didn’t get an answer perhaps it is because you didn’t ask for one; perhaps your faith is so small you don’t believe His the promises. Without proper prayer, nothing good will happen – so it is our job, our duty, pleasure, and gift to pray properly and often.”*
 - *The Bereans wrote, “Prayer changes things if it agrees with God’s will. That’s what makes study of His Word so very important; to learn the basic guidelines for prayer that we must follow to have any chance at all of receiving an answer to our prayers.”*
 - *John Wesley says, “God does nothing but in answer to prayer.” (Celebration of Discipline, Richard Foster, p33)*
 - *Martin Luther said, “He that has prayed well has studied well. (ibid)*
 - *Richard Foster wrote, “In real prayer we think God’s thoughts after him: to desire the things he desires, to love the things he loves, to will the things he wills.” (ibid, p. 32)*
 - *Frank Laubach the preacher said, “When every person in a congregation prays intensely while the pastor is preaching, a miracle happens.” (ibid, p. 43)*
 - *If everyone in the nation sent you a penny, you’d be rich. If everyone in the nation prayed for the president, he would be wise. So I say again, **it is our job, our duty, our privilege to pray.***

Who needs your prayers?

What daily times have you set aside for prayer? _____

For intercession on another's behalf? _____

For the study of God's Word to learn of His will? _____

For alone time with God in supplication? _____

For thanks for all He has done for you already? _____

For honoring God, the Creator of everything? _____

Spouse: _____

Children: _____

Parents: _____

Friends: _____

Coworkers: _____

Church: _____

Bible Study _____

Pastors: _____

Missionary: _____

Prayer List from church: _____

National Leaders: _____

World Leaders: _____

Your spiritual fruit: _____

The job God assigned to you: _____

_____: _____

_____: _____