

Lesson 3

Prayer

Memory verse: Philippians space 4:6 (KJV)

“Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.”

Prayer is the most powerful tool in the Christian tool chest. Our bodies cannot live without food. Neither can we live without error. The same is true spiritually. We cannot survive spiritually without prayer. Prayer is the breathing of the new life in Christ. The more we pray, the more power we receive. Someone has said, “no prayer, no power; some prayer, some power; much prayer, much power.”

WHAT IS PRAYER?

Prayer is talking to God. In order for God to hear us, we must get near to him. Fortunately, God lives within the body of every believer (1 Corinthians 6:19), therefore it does not take much to get close to God. The closer we get to Him, the closer He gets to us (James 4:8). It is in our prayer life that we fellowship and commune with God.

Prayer is asking. About 30 times in the New Testament, the word “ask” is used to describe prayer. Look up the following verses and write down what God promises to those who ask,

Matthew 7:7 _____

Matthew 7:8 _____

Matthew 7:11 _____

Matthew 21:22 _____

John 14:14 _____

John 16:24 _____

Prayer involves asking God for the things you need which he can supply.

HOW SHOULD WE PRAY?

First of all, **offer praise and thanksgiving to God for all that he has done for you.** When the apostles asked Jesus, “Lord, teach us to pray.” Jesus said, pray after this manner “Our Father who art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy name...” (Luke 11:2)

Then: **tell God about your faults and sins** (1 John 1:9). Prayer has a great deal to do with the attitude of your hearts. Praising confession of our sins will help us to pray with humbleness and power. Ask God to guide you in your thoughts and actions.

Also, **begin to ask God for your needs.** Tell him of your burdens and asked him to help you be strong. Don't be afraid to pray for yourself. You can be of no benefit to anyone unless you are strong in the Lord. The heavenly father is your friend now and he will listen to everything that is in your heart. **Pray believing** (Mark 11:24) **Pray especially for those who need Christ for salvation.**

Remember to **pray with other believers**. Their president will be an inspiration to you. When you pray with other believers there is a special presence of God. Jesus said, “where two or three are gathered together in my name I am in their midst of them.” (Matthew 18:20 KJV)

Pray with those in your family. Go to prayer meeting and learn to pray with other believers. Make time to pray every day and take time to be holy before God.

When you are close in prayer,

- **Pray that God will be glorified in the answer of your prayer.**
(1 John 5:14 – 15)
- **Thank Him for the victory in Jesus Christ.**
(2 Corinthians 2:14)

1. We must pray with God’s _____ abiding in us.
2. We must pray in whose name? (John 14: 14) _____
3. We must _____ when we pray. (Mark 11:24)
4. How should we come to God’s throne? (Hebrews 4:16) _____
5. When we bring our request before God, we are to do it (by prayer and supplication with _____
(Philippians 4:6)
6. We should pray directly to _____. (1 Timothy 2:5)
7. “whatsoever we ask, we receive of Him, because we _____ His _____ and do those things that are pleasing in His sight” (1 John 3:22 KJV)
8. What will happen if you pray and still have the desire to sit in your heart? (Psalms 66:18)

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9. What is the confidence that we should have when we are approaching God? (1 John 5:14 – 15)
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10. What will be the result if we always pray? (Luke 18:1)

Every Christian should have a “prayer closet”, a special place that is private where you can meet with God alone every day and pray. Think of a place and the time you can be alone with God and make an appointment to meet Him there. Get a note book and journal your prayer requests and answers.