

Bible Study #5

PRAYER

Begin memorizing **Philippians 4:6-7**

“Be anxious for nothing, 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 minds through Christ Jesus.” - Philippians 4:6-7

Luke 11:1 - “Now it came to pass, as He was praying in a certain place, when He ceased, that one of His disciples said to Him, “Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples.”

Jesus set an example in His prayers. The disciples saw that His prayers were intimate, like talking with a close friend. They wanted to learn how to have the same close relationship with the Father as Jesus did. In this lesson you should learn:

- A. Reasons why your prayers aren't answered
- B. How to be sure your prayers are answered
- C. The different types of prayer

1. Why would God not give us what we ask Him for? (Give two examples)
James 4:1-3 We do not ask or If we ask with wrong motives.

Psalm 66:18 (NAS) - "If I regard wickedness in my heart the Lord will not hear."

Isaiah 59:2 (NAS) - " But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hid His face from you, so that He does not hear."

2. From the Above scriptures, do you think God hears our prayer when we are living in continual disobedience to His Word? No.
3. If there is sin in our lives, what should we do before bringing our requests to the Father?
1 John 1:9 Confess the sin.

Read about the prayer of the tax collector in Luke 18:9-14

4. What is one reason that the Lord wants to give us what we pray for?
John 16:24 To give us joy because He is our Father.
5. When we have needs that need to be met, what should our attitude be when we come to God in prayer?
Hebrews 4:16 We should have a confident attitude.
6. How can we pray that we will be sure God will answer our prayers?
1 John 5:14-15 According to the will of God.
7. When we don't know what God's will is or how we should pray about something, who will intercede for us?
Romans 8:26-27 The Holy Spirit.
8. What three words describe what we need to do in order to receive good gifts from our Heavenly Father?
Matthew 7:7-12 Ask, Seek and Knock.

Verse 7 in the Greek could be better translated "keep seeking, keep knocking, and keep asking." In other words, be persistent!

Read about the parable about persistence in **Luke 18:1-8**

Sometimes God answers prayer with "WAIT!" If we believe our prayers are in accordance with God's will and he doesn't answer with a definite "yes" or "no," we should be patient and wait for His answer. Keep asking! The Lord not only has the perfect answer, He has the perfect time to give His answer.

9. What happens when we pray for something according to the will of God in the name of Jesus?
John 16:23 It will be given.
10. Why do we pray in the name of Jesus?
1 Timothy 2:5 Because He is the mediator between man and God.

To ask “in the name of Jesus” means to come to the Father based on the righteousness and finished work of Jesus, not our own righteousness or merits.

11. What promise does Jesus give if we will abide or remain in Him?

John 15:7 He will remain in us.

Read **John 15:1-7** to see what abiding means.

ABIDE means to remain in one place and not change. A good example of abiding is a tree, it does not wander off. To abide in Christ means to continue in His teaching and not wander from it.

12. What two things should we do to be sure the Lord hears us?

Mark 11:24-25 Believe and forgive.

AMEN comes from the Hebrew word for “true” or “faithful.” When we use it in prayer, it is our way of saying we believe the Lord will answer our prayers.

13. Who is glorified when our prayers are answered?

John 14:13 The Father.

14. What are the different types of prayer?

1 Timothy 2:1 Petitions and thanksgivings.

A. **SUPPLICATION, PETITION** or **REQUEST** is when we ask God to supply our needs.

B. **INTERCESSION** is when we pray for others, such as for healing or salvation.

C. **THANKSGIVING** or **PRAISE** is giving God the glory He deserves for what He has done and for who He is. This is an important part of worship.

D. **PRAYER** is talking with God, not only to Him. It is time spent in His presence.

15. According to the Bible, when is a good time to pray?

1 Thessalonians 5:17 All times are good to pray. Pray without ceasing.

For more about prayer, read **Matthew 6:5-15** to see what Jesus has to say about it.

From memory, write out your memory verse from the beginning of this Bible study.

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