

H. O. P. E. Ministries Bible Study

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Presents

THE POWER OF PRAYER REVEALED

Before we can tap into the power of prayer we must first explore the purpose, types, timing and the biblical methods of prayer.

What is Prayer:

Prayer – to converse with God, a two way conversation; a form of total humility before the all mighty God; a romantic interlude with God; pouring out the soul before the Lord

Prayer presupposes a belief in the personality of God, his ability and willingness to hold dialogue with us, his personal control of all things and of all his creatures and all their actions.

Strong's number: OT:6419

palal (paw-lal') to intercede, pray

Strong's number: NT:4336

proseuchomai (pros-yoo'-khom-ah-ee); to pray to God, i.e. supplicate, worship:

Why pray:

If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land. (2 Chron 7:14)

Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting. (Matt 17:21)

And said, Cornelius, thy prayer is heard, and thine alms are had in remembrance in the sight of God. (Acts 10:31)

But as for me, my prayer is unto thee, O LORD, in an acceptable time: O God, in the multitude of thy mercy hear me, in the truth of thy salvation. (Ps 69:13)

The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the LORD: but the prayer of the upright is his delight. (Prov 15:8)

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. (James 5:16)

Who should pray:

For this shall every one that is godly pray unto thee in a time when thou mayest be found: surely in the floods of great waters they shall not come nigh unto him. (Ps 32:6)

Thou shalt make thy prayer unto him, and he shall hear thee, and thou shalt pay thy vows. (Job 22:27)

Three most common types of Prayers:

- 1) **Social** – family prayers, and in social worship; and public, in the service of the sanctuary.
- 2) **Secret** – private prayer personal time usually will lead to an intimate worship experience. (Matt 6:6) This is not limited to only when you are in a private setting but is limited to spiritually removing oneself from the confines of the natural. (*praying in the spirit*)
- 3) **Intercessory** – prayer that is dedicated to the welfare of someone else. (I Tim 2:1)

Note: *All though distinct in desired outcomes all three types of pray can be achieved in a single prayer session.*

Position's to pray in:

- 1) **Standing** - (1 Sam 1:26; 1 Kings 8:14,55; 2 Chron 20:9; Mark 11:25; Luke 18:11,13).
- 2) **Kneeling**- (1 Kings 8:54; 2 Chron 6:13; Ps 95:6; Isa 45:23; Luke 22:41; Acts 7:60; 9:40;
Eph 3:14)
- 3) **Laying prostrate** - (Gen 24:26,52; Ex 4:31; 12:27; Matt 26:39; Mark 14:35)

Praying in the spirit:

Rom 8:26-27

26 Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

27 And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, (Jude 20)

When to pray:

Pray without ceasing. (1 Thess 5:17)

Moreover as for me, God forbid that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you: but I will teach you the good and the right way (1 Sam 12:23)

I will therefore that men pray every where, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting. (1 Tim 2:8)

But we will give ourselves continually to prayer , and to the ministry of the word (Acts 6:4)

Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer ;
(Rom 12:12)

Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;
(Eph 6:18)

None prayed so often as Jesus; early in the morning "a great while before day" (Mark 1:35), "all the night" (Luke 6:12), in Gethsemane with an "agony" that drew from Him "sweat as it were great drops of blood falling to the ground" (Luke 22:44); "when He was being baptized, and praying, the heaven was opened" (Luke 3:21); "as He prayed" He was transfigured (Luke 9:29); "as He was praying in a certain place" (Luke 11:1) one disciple struck by His prayer said, "Lord teach us to pray as John also taught his disciples"

How to pray (an exam of Matt 6:9-13):

- 9 After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.
- 10 Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.
- 11 Give us this day our daily bread.
- 12 And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
- 13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

This statement made by Christ was never a prayer in fact it was an instruction or example of how to pray.

Lets examine it..

- 1 First the prayer starts off with acknowledging who you are praying to (Our Father who art in heaven)
- 2 Second the prayer gives accolades to God (Hallowed be thy name) This shows how important his name is
- 3 Thirdly the prayer encourages and invites the arrival of Gods total authority on earth (Thy kingdom come, thy will be done)
- 4 Fourthly the pray makes its petition or request for spiritual nutrition (Give us our daily bread)
- 5 Fifthly the pray makes petition for forgiveness (forgive us our debts)
- 6 Sixthly the pray continues in its petition for spiritual fortification (lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil)

7 Seventhly the prayer ends in acknowledging who you are praying to (For thine is the kingdom,)

What is missing in this prayer? Isn't it strange that no natural request were made?

Keep in mind: *But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. (Matt 6:33)*

Does God hear a sinner's prayer:

As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent . (Rev 3:19)

Therefore say unto the house of Israel, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Repent , and turn yourselves from your idols; and turn away your faces from all your abominations. (Ezek 14:6)

Now we know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshipper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth. (John 9:31)

But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear. (Isa 59:1-2)