Notes

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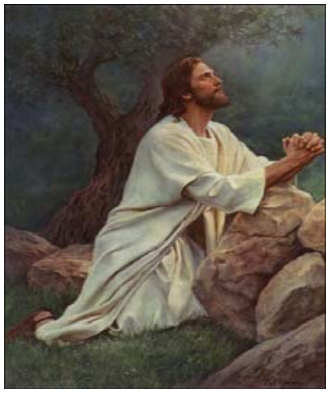
It Is Written television presents:

SEARCH FOR Certainty

GQ

How to Pray

Talking with Jesus



What is prayer, and how can we pray effectively? Prayer is transparent dialogue. It is a conversation with God in which we address Him and in quiet are addressed by Him. Prayer is like a talking with a friend. There are four components in a prayer, which are summarized by the acronym ACTS.

Adoration: appreciating God for who He is apart from what He has done for us.

Confession: acknowledging to God our specific sin and seeking his pardon.

Thanksgiving: appreciating God for His benefit to us.

Supplication: interceding for ourselves or others according to God's will.

Prayer is the opening of the heart to God as to a friend.

Prayer is the opening of the heart to God as to a friend. Of course we do not need to tell God about ourselves, for He already knows everything. But we pray to help us know Him and be able to receive Him. Prayer does not bring God down to us; it brings us up to Him.

When Jesus was on earth, He taught His disciples how to pray. He told them to present their needs before God and to lay all their cares on Him. And He promised that their prayers would be heard. This promise is also for us.

Jesus prayed often. He made Himself one of us when He was on earth. His needs were the same as ours, and He asked His Father for strength to meet the duties of each day. He knew He must have God's help to carry on His work. He is our example in all things.

1. What is Jesus' example in prayer? Matthew 14:23, Mark 1:35

The Bible answers: _____

_____

The Saviour, the Son of God, felt the need of prayer. How much more should we who are weak, sinful people feel the need to turn to God in prayer.

2. What is the purpose of prayer? Revelation 3:20

The Bible answers: _____

_____

The purpose of prayer is to build a trusting relationship between us and God.

15. What does God promise when we call to Him? Jeremiah 33:3

The Bible answers: _____

_____

God's heart of love is touched by our sorrows and even by telling Him about them. We may take everything that troubles us to Him. Nothing is too great for Him to bear, for He holds up the worlds and rules the universe. Nothing that happens to us is too small for Him to notice. Nothing in our lives is too sinful for Him to know about. No problems is so great He cannot solve it. He shares our joys and our worries. Would you like to build a relationship through prayer with such a loving God?

MY DECISION

☐ *I would like to make a commitment to talk with Jesus everyday through prayer.*

12. What ingredient is required when we pray? Mark 11:24

The Bible answers:_____

_____

Condition #3 – We also need faith or believe when we pray. Do we take God at His word? God is faithful in keeping His many promises. We may sometimes ask and not receive at once the things we ask for. But we are still to believe that the Lord hears and that He will answer our prayers.

13. What should be our attitude when we pray? Matthew 6:12

The Bible answers:_____

_____

Condition #4 – We must have a love and forgiveness in our own hearts when we come to God asking for mercy and blessings. How can we pray if we have an unforgiving spirit? We must forgive others if we expect our prayers to be heard. We will be forgiven as we forgive.

14. Is faithfulness in prayer a condition for receiving? Colossians 4:2

The Bible answers:_____

_____

Condition #5 – We must pray always if we want to grow in faith. Regular prayer gives us an unbroken hold on God so that life from Him flows into us.

There is no better place to begin to learn to pray than to study the prayer that was a response to Jesus' disciple's request, "Lord, teach us to pray." Luke 11:1

3. How do we pray? Matthew 6:9-13

The Bible answers:_____

_____

The Lord's prayer is set in Matthew 6, where Jesus contrasts true and false ways of showing devotion to God. This prayer is an expression of true love for God.

4. Why do we start with 'Our Father in heaven'? Matthew 6:9

The Bible answers:_____

_____

Our heavenly Father waits to give us His full blessing. In prayer we can feel His boundless love. God is like a father that is ready and willing to hear the sincere prayer of even the most humble child.

5. How often should we pray? Matthew 6:11, 1 Thessalonians 5:17

The Bible answers:_____

_____

God has a great storehouse of blessings, and prayer is the key in the hand of faith that unlocks heaven's storehouse. Unless we pray often, we are in danger of growing careless. We may be led to turn from the right path.

6. What are the components in an effective prayer? Read Matthew 6:9-13

List the 4 components and list the corresponding verses:

Adoration: _____

Confession: _____

Thanksgiving: _____

Supplication: _____

7. When is a good time to pray? Psalms 5:3

The Bible answers:_____

_____

8. Why do we pray 'in Jesus name'? John 14:13-14

The Bible answers:_____

_____

9. Why do we say 'Amen' at the close of a prayer? What does 'Amen' mean? Psalms 106:48

The Bible answers:_____

_____

Amen is a solemn affirmation. When we say 'Amen' we are saying, 'Yes before God, that I agree with that, I believe that to be true, I want that to be so'. Jeremiah a prophet of God paraphrased in his statement 'Amen, the Lord do so' (Jeremiah 28:6)

10. What are the conditions for prayer? Matthew 7:7-8

The Bible answers:_____

_____

Condition #1 - We can expect God to answer our prayer, but we must meet certain conditions. One of our first conditions is that we must feel our need of help from Him.

11. Why God does not hear us when we pray? Psalms 66:18

The Bible answers:_____

_____

Condition #2 – God will not hear us if we hold on to any known sin. But He always hears the prayers of a person who is sorry for sin.