

DOCTRINE OF PRAYER
LESSON 8 SUNDAY 9/27/26
LUKE 11:1-13

INTRODUCTION: Prayer is a “divine-human” relationship through which communication is established between God and man. Prayer is “man talking to God,” and it is as essential to the Christian life as air is to the lungs.

To FAIL in prayer is to forfeit many blessings.

To NEGLECT prayer is to forfeit many blessings.

To STOP SHORT in prayer is to fail to secure strength for Christian living.

FAILURE to pray is a sin (I Samuel 12:23).

I. THE PURPOSE OF PRAYER

NOTE: PRAYER embraces WORSHIP, PRAISE, THANKSGIVING, SUPPLICATION, and INTERCESSION.

A. The purpose of prayer is basically threefold:

1. To EXPRESS thanks – Psalm 92:1.
2. To ENJOY fellowship – I John 1:3.
3. To ENLIST divine assistance and blessing – Philippians 4:6-7.

II. PREPARATION FOR PRAYER

A. Three things are necessary in PREPARATION for PRAYER:

1. Confession of sin – Psalm 66:18.
2. Humility of heart – Psalm 10:17.
3. Forgiving others – Mark 11:25-26.

III. PRACTICE OF PRAYER

NOTE: PRAYER should be a daily habit in the life of every Christian. Thus, it becomes a “PRACTICE” or a ‘WAY OF LIFE.’ D.L. Moody said: “A CHRISTIAN SHOULD BEGIN, CONTINUE AND END EVERYTHING IN PRAYER.”

A. Consider the following examples:

1. DAVID – a man who practiced prayer – Psalm 55:17.
2. DANIEL – a man who prayed three times a day – Daniel 6:10.
3. JESUS – Our true example in PRAYER .
 - a. He prayed while resting – Matthew 14:22-23.
 - b. He prayed before the transfiguration – Luke 9:28-29.
 - c. He prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane – Matthew 26: 39-46.

IV. PERSEVERANCE IN PRAYER

NOTE: To PERSERVERE means to “continue with patience.”

- A. Jesus said, ‘men ought always to PRAY’ – Luke 18:1.
- B. Paul said, “praying ALWAYS.....” – Ephesians 6:18.
- C. Paul said, PRAY without ceasing” – I Thessalonians 5:17.

V. PASSAGES DEALING WITH PRAYER

1. Concerning ANSWERED prayer – Isaiah 65:24
2. Invitation to PRAY – Jeremiah 33:3.
3. Agreement in PRAYER – Matthew 18:19.
4. PRAYER for wisdom – James 1:5-7.
5. Guarantee in PRAYER – I John 3:21-22.

MISCELLANEOUS REMARKS

‘When we work, we work. When we pray, God works.’

“Prayer changes things.”

“Praying pews and powerful pulpits make perfect partners.”

“If you must whisper, whisper a prayer.”

“Satan trembles when he sees the weakest saint on his knees.”

“The powerhouse is always there, so push the button labeled prayer.”

“God always answers prayer. Sometimes He says yes, sometimes He says no, and sometimes He says wait a while.”

