

Purpose of Prayer



- We experience a deeper connection with God which allows his plans for us to be realised.
- To refresh us with supplies of heavenly blessings and meet our daily needs.
- Through our relationship with God, we can become more Christ like.
- We gain victory over sin and strength to resist temptation and overcome challenges.
- In answer to prayer, God intervenes in our lives in miraculous and unexpected ways.
- When combined with bible study, we can gain a better understanding of the plan of salvation.
- It gives us the skills, knowledge and power to work for God and to lead others to Jesus.

Practice of Prayer

1. First & the Best-Mark 1:35

God is available 24 hours a day, vigilantly watching over our lives (Psalms 121). Give God your best; put him first and pray at the start of the day thanking him for his goodness, love and protection.

2. In Awe & Reverence-Psalms 96:8-9

Present yourself reverently to God who is the holy, just, and perfect king of heaven and creator of the universe. Reverence and respect recognises God's greatness in relation to our smallness.

3. Consecrating Our Lives-1 Peter 1:15-16

Prayer is a sacred act which allows us to enter the presence of God. The closer our relationship with God, the more we want to please him. This process of daily consecration will increase our desire to be holy.

4. Intimacy & Friendship-John 15:14-15

Setting aside regular time for prayer each day will build an intimate relationship with God. He expects us to be as real and open with him as we would a close friend.

5. Seeking Forgiveness-Psalms 66:18

God is perfect and holy and cannot answer our prayers if we do not confess our sins. Remember to forgive others and ask God to forgive our wrong doing, as this can remove barriers to unanswered prayer.

6. Daily Needs-Luke 12:22-31

The Lord's Prayer reminds us to ask God to supply our daily needs. The bible tells us not to worry because God knows what we need and will provide it for us.

7. According to God's Will-1 John 5:14-15

God's answers our prayers according to his will which is for health, happiness and good relationships. Pray to him in the name of Jesus his Son and the Holy Spirit will help us to grow spiritually.

8. Faith & Obedience-Matthew 21:22

Faith and sincerity are important aspects of successful prayer. Christ taught that when we have faith we can pray according to God's will and confidently expect answers.

Practice of Prayer

continued

9. Thanksgiving & Praise-1 Chronicles 29:10-13

God responds to our praise and thanksgiving by coming closer to us. During prayer, remember to thank him for his gifts of life, love, faithfulness and protection.

10. Meditating on His Word-Joshua 1:8-9

The bible is one of the many ways God speaks to us, so prayer need not be one-sided. By meditating on God's promises to us in the bible, our faith, understanding and prayer life are being strengthened.



11. Earnest Pleading-Luke 18:7-8

Perseverance in prayer demonstrates that we are serious. Pleading earnestly to God enables us to ask for the things we "need" rather than the things we "want" and strengthens our faith.

12. Prayer for Others-1 Timothy 2:1-4

God wants us to pray for others and our communities, because he wants all mankind to know him and be saved. As we intercede for others, God intervenes in ways he could not otherwise do, had we not prayed.