BIBLE TOPICS · THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

Prayer

Talking with Our Father in Heaven

Our Father
We come as His children

In Jesus' Name
The one Mediator

By the Spirit
Who helps us pray

Always
Pray without ceasing

THE BASICS

What Prayer Is

Six simple truths about coming to God in prayer.

TO THE FATHER

Our Father

We pray as children to a loving Father.

"Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name."

MATTHEW 6:9

THROUGH THE SON

In Jesus' Name

Jesus opened the way to God.

"And whatsoever ye shall ask in My name, that will I do"

JOHN 14:13

BY THE SPIRIT

Helped by the Spirit

He helps when we do not know what to say.

"Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities"

ROMANS 8:26

WITH FAITH

Believing God

We trust that God is there and that He cares.

"for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him."

HEBREWS 11:6

IN SECRET

Honest, Not for Show

God sees and hears the quiet heart.

"and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly."

MATTHEW 6:6

ALWAYS

All the Time

Prayer can fill the whole day.

"Pray without ceasing."

1 THESSALONIANS 5:17

KEY VERSE

"Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God."

Philippians 4:6 (KJV)

The Lord’s Prayer Chart

BIBLE TOPICS · PRAYER

The Lord’s Prayer

“After this manner therefore pray ye”

Matthew 6:9–13 · A pattern for every prayer

The Prayer Jesus Taught

1. **Our Father which art in heaven**
   Come to God as His child, with love and with reverence.
   MATTHEW 6:9

2. **Hallowed be Thy name**
   Begin with worship: honour God’s name as holy.
   MATTHEW 6:9

3. **Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven**
   Put God’s kingdom and God’s will before your own plans.
   MATTHEW 6:10

4. **Give us this day our daily bread**
   Ask God for what you need today, and trust Him for tomorrow.
   MATTHEW 6:11

5. **And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors**
   Confess your sins, receive His forgiveness, and forgive others.
   MATTHEW 6:12

6. **And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil**
   Ask God to keep you from sin and from the evil one.
   MATTHEW 6:13

7. **For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.**
   End where you began: with praise to God, who is able.
   MATTHEW 6:13

Six Kinds of Prayer

1. **Praise**
   Honouring God for who He is
   PSALM 34:1

2. **Thanksgiving**
   Thanking Him for all He has done
   1 THESSALONIANS 5:18

3. **Confession**
   Owning our sins and receiving pardon
   1 JOHN 1:9

4. **Asking**
   Bringing our needs to God
   MATTHEW 7:7

5. **Intercession**
   Praying for other people
   1 TIMOTHY 2:1

6. **Surrender**
   Not My will, but Thine, be done
   LUKE 22:42

KEY VERSE

“Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.”

PHILIPPIANS 4:6 (KJV)

PRAYER AT A GLANCE · PART 3 OF 6

The Lord’s Prayer and Kinds of Prayer

MATTHEW 6:9–13

The Lord’s Prayer, Line by Line

Jesus gave this prayer as a pattern (“After this manner therefore pray ye”), not as words to repeat without thought. Each line teaches us something to pray about.

1

Our Father

God is near and loving, yet holy and in heaven.

“Our Father which art in heaven”

MATTHEW 6:9

2

Worship First

Begin by honouring God’s holy name.

“Hallowed be Thy name.”

MATTHEW 6:9

3

His Kingdom and Will

Ask for God’s rule to come and His will to be done.

“Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.”

MATTHEW 6:10

4

Daily Needs

Nothing is too small to bring to God.

“Give us this day our daily bread.”

MATTHEW 6:11

5

Forgiveness

Forgiven people forgive others.

“And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.”

MATTHEW 6:12

6

Protection

Ask God to keep you from sin and from the evil one.

“And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil”

MATTHEW 6:13

> *“For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.”*
>
> Matthew 6:13 (KJV)

MANY WAYS TO PRAY

Kinds of Prayer

Prayer is more than asking. The Bible shows many ways to talk with God.

PRAISE

Honour God

Praise Him for who He is.

“I will bless the LORD at all times: His praise shall continually be in my mouth.”

PSALM 34:1

THANKSGIVING

Give Thanks

Thank Him for what He has done.

“In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.”

1 THESSALONIANS 5:18

CONFESSION

Confess Sin

Agree with God about your sin.

“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins”

1 JOHN 1:9

ASKING

Bring Your Needs

Ask your Father for what you need.

“Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you”

MATTHEW 7:7

INTERCESSION

Pray for Others

Lift up family, friends, leaders and the lost.

“I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men”

1 TIMOTHY 2:1

SURRENDER

Trust His Will

Jesus showed us how in Gethsemane.

“nevertheless not My will, but Thine, be done.”

LUKE 22:42

Great Prayers of the Bible

OLD AND NEW TESTAMENT

Great Prayers of the Bible

Men and women of faith prayed in every kind of trouble. Their prayers show us how to pray.

ABRAHAM

For a Wicked City

He pleaded for Sodom.

"Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?"

GENESIS 18:25

MOSES

For a Sinful People

He stood between Israel and judgment.

"Turn from Thy fierce wrath, and repent of this evil against Thy people."

EXODUS 32:12

HANNAH

For a Child

She poured out her soul before the Lord.

"For this child I prayed; and the LORD hath given me my petition which I asked of Him"

1 SAMUEL 1:27

SOLOMON

At the Temple

He asked God to hear from heaven.

"hear Thou in heaven Thy dwelling place: and when Thou hearest, forgive."

1 KINGS 8:30

ELIJAH

On Mount Carmel

He prayed and fire fell.

"Hear me, O LORD, hear me, that this people may know that Thou art the LORD God"

1 KINGS 18:37

JEHOSHAPHAT

Facing an Army

He looked to God when he had no strength.

"neither know we what to do: but our eyes are upon Thee."

2 CHRONICLES 20:12

NEHEMIAH

For Jerusalem

He fasted and prayed before he acted.

"and fasted, and prayed before the God of heaven"

NEHEMIAH 1:4

DANIEL

Three Times a Day

He kept praying though it meant the lions.

"he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God"

DANIEL 6:10

THE CHURCH

For Boldness

Threatened, they asked for courage to preach.

"grant unto Thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak Thy word"

ACTS 4:29

How Jesus Prayed and How God Answers

OUR EXAMPLE

How Jesus Prayed

The Son of God lived a life of prayer, and He still prays for His people today.

Early in the Morning
He made time alone with the Father.

"And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, He went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed."

MARK 1:35

All Night
Before choosing the twelve apostles.

"and continued all night in prayer to God."

LUKE 6:12

With Thanks
He gave thanks before feeding the five thousand.

"And Jesus took the loaves; and when He had given thanks, He distributed to the disciples"

JOHN 6:11

For Us
He prayed for all who would believe.

"Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on Me through their word"

JOHN 17:20

In Gethsemane
In agony, He surrendered to the Father's will.

"Father, if Thou be willing, remove this cup from Me"

LUKE 22:42

On the Cross
He prayed for those who crucified Him.

"Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do."

LUKE 23:34

> *"Wherefore He is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him, seeing He ever liveth to make intercession for them."*
>
> Hebrews 7:25 (KJV)

WHEN GOD ANSWERS

How God Answers Prayer

God always hears the prayers of His children, and He answers in His perfect wisdom and time.

1

He Hears
No prayer of His child goes unheard.

"The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous, and His ears are open unto their cry."

PSALM 34:15

2

Sometimes Yes
He delights to give good gifts.

"how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask Him?"

MATTHEW 7:11

3

Sometimes Wait
His timing is part of His answer.

"Wait on the LORD: be of good courage, and He shall strengthen thine heart"

PSALM 27:14

4

Sometimes Something Better
Paul asked three times; God gave grace instead.

"My grace is sufficient for thee: for My strength is made perfect in weakness."

2 CORINTHIANS 12:9

5

Wrong Motives Hinder
Selfish asking misses God's purpose.

"Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss"

JAMES 4:3

6

Unconfessed Sin Hinders
Turn from sin and come back to God.

"If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me"

PSALM 66:18

Growing in Prayer

FOR TODAY

Growing in Prayer Today

Prayer grows with practice. Here are simple steps from Scripture for a stronger prayer life.

1

Find a Quiet Place

Set a time and a place to meet with God.

"But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret"

MATTHEW 6:6

2

Pray God's Word

Let Scripture shape your prayers.

"If ye abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you."

JOHN 15:7

3

Keep Asking

Do not give up.

"that men ought always to pray, and not to faint"

LUKE 18:1

4

Pray with Others

Join other believers in prayer.

"For where two or three are gathered together in My name, there am I in the midst of them."

MATTHEW 18:20

5

Give God Your Worries

Trade anxiety for prayer.

"Casting all your care upon Him; for He careth for you."

1 PETER 5:7

6

Forgive First

Clear your heart before you pray.

"And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any"

MARK 11:25

KEY THEMES

Six Truths About Prayer

These six truths run through everything the Bible teaches about prayer.

1

God Invites Us

The Lord wants His people to call on Him.

"Call unto Me, and I will answer thee"

JEREMIAH 33:3

2

Through Jesus Alone

Christ is the way to the Father.

"For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus"

1 TIMOTHY 2:5

3

Come Boldly

Grace and mercy wait at God's throne.

"Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace"

HEBREWS 4:16

4

According to His Will

We ask as children who trust the Father's wisdom.

"if we ask any thing according to His will, He heareth us"

1 JOHN 5:14

5

Keep On Praying

Prayer is a way of life, not an emergency call.

"Pray without ceasing."

1 THESSALONIANS 5:17

6

Peace for the Heart

God's peace guards those who pray.

"And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

PHILIPPIANS 4:7