

Gospel Truth

Biblical Instruction and Encouragement for the Mission Field Worldwide.

LORD, TEACH US TO PRAY

(In this article, the Lord's Prayer is quoted from Matthew 6:9-13 KJV).

The disciples came to Christ in Luke 11 requesting: "Lord, teach us to pray." The greatest prayer ever written has become known as the "Lord's Prayer" and is a pattern of which to follow. What a wonderful blessing to learn from the Son of God himself how to pray. This model prayer contains many elements that will enable people to pray effectually as they open their hearts in sincerity and love, pour out their devotion, and make their requests to God. "After this manner therefore pray ye...."

"Our Father"—Personal relationship. The opening of the prayer exemplifies the beautiful relationship that should exist between God and mankind. It expresses confidence in God as our father and in the love that we have as His children. We are adopted children of the King. "Our" is plural and implies unity and acceptance that God is also the Father of other children, our spiritual brothers and sisters.

"which art in heaven,"—Faith/Recognition. A fixed knowledge and assurance of God's omnipresence and omniscience. We believe in and know to whom we pray.

"Hallowed be thy name."—Adoration/Exaltation/Worship. Hallowed means sanctified, set apart for an office. Prayer is a time to honor and reverence God and to acknowledge with our hearts, thoughts, and words His divine,

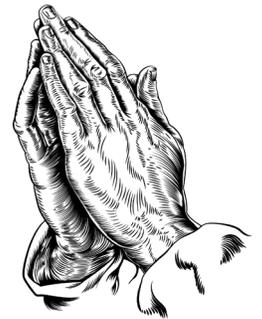
holy nature and position in our lives. Prayer does not start with a request but with worship of God's holy name.

"Thy kingdom come."—Anticipation/Expectation. This entreaty petitions God with expectation for guidance and for His presence. It is a longing for God's complete rule and oversight in our lives and that the power of Satan be broken. "The kingdom of God is not meat and drink but righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost" (Romans 14:17). Christ's kingdom is a spiritual kingdom that exists within an individual.

"Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven."—Submission/Consecration. God's will is absolute in Heaven yet is only carried out in our mortal, fleshly bodies as we submit our will and plans into His hands. As Jesus prayed in Gethsemane, "Nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done." An aspect of prayer is surrender of all that we are and all that we possess to God's exclusive use.

"Give us this day our daily bread."—Petition/Supplication. After worship and submission, we are in a condition to seek God for the necessities of life. We request of God all things that pertain to life and godliness that we might fulfill His will in our lives. This encompasses not only the physical bread but also the spiritual graces needed to help us grow and be strong in our weakness.

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"The greatest prayer ever written has become known as the "Lord's Prayer" and is a pattern of which to follow."

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WHAT THE BIBLE TEACHES ABOUT...

Word of God

2 Tim. 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:20-21; Matt. 24:35

Relationship of Love

Matt. 22:37-40; John 14:21-23; 1 John 4:7-11

Repentance

Acts 3:19; Acts 17:30; 2 Cor. 7:10

New Birth

John 3:3-7; 2 Cor. 5:17; Rom. 6:1-4;
Eph. 2:1, 5-6

Freedom From Sin

1 John 5:18; Matt. 1:21; John 8:11

Infilling of the Holy Spirit

Acts 19:2; Acts 15:8-9; Acts 1:8

Holiness

Luke 1:73-75; Heb. 12:14; 1 Peter 1:15-16;
Titus 2:11-12; Rom. 6:22

Kingdom of God

Luke 17:20-21; Romans 14:17; John 18:36

The Church

Acts 2:47; Eph. 4:4-6; 1 Cor. 12:12-13; Col 1:18

Unity

John 17:20-23; Gal 3:28; Rev. 18:2-4

Ordinances

Matt. 28:19-20; Matt. 26:26-30;
1 Cor. 11:23-27; John 13:14-17

Divine Healing

Luke 4:18; Isaiah 53:4-5; James 5:13-16

Sanctity of Marriage

Matt. 19:5-6; Luke 16:18; Rom. 7:2-3;
1 Cor. 7:10-11

Outward Appearance

1 Tim. 2:9-10; 1 Cor. 11:14-15; Deut. 22:5

End of Time

2 Peter 3:7-12; John 5:28-29; 2 Cor. 5:10;
Matt 25:31-46

Pacifism

Luke 6:27-29; Luke 18:20

Worship

John 4:23-24; Eph. 5:19; 2 Cor. 3:17

Great Commission

Mark 16:15

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“And forgive us our debts”—Confession/Intercession. We do not deserve God’s forgiveness, but He is willing and ready to forgive us not only of sin but also for our mistakes and failures. It is vital to examine ourselves and to acknowledge our own spiritual shortcomings in humility. A prayer of forgiveness can be prayed corporately, as when Daniel interceded for Israel in asking for God’s forgiveness.

“as we forgive our debtors.”—Compassion/Forgiveness. God is only willing to forgive us as we have mercy and compassion on those that trespass against us. Seeking God’s help in our relationship with others is vital to our relationship with God.

“Prayer is our
lifeline to God
and is of utmost
importance in
a Christian’s
experience.”

“And lead us not into temptation,”—Guidance. Temptations and spiritual dangers are real. If we follow God’s leadership, we will be tempted, but we do not have to enter into the temptation and commit sin. Seeking and obeying God’s guidance will keep us from much trouble.

“but deliver us from evil.”—Protection/Dependence. The power to overcome is not in our own strength but in the power of God. He will protect us from the wiles and snares of the enemy if we stay dependent upon Him for our help.

“For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,”—Acknowledgment. We are weak and insufficient creatures but in Christ we are strong and able to live acceptably before God. All power and glory rests with no other than God Himself, for He is the giver of all good things. The prayer begins to conclude with faith, humility, reverence, and worship to the creator.

“for ever.”—Timelessness. Of God’s kingdom, mercy, and love, there is no end.

“Amen.”—Affirmation. So be it. Let it be so.

Prayer is key to a relationship with God; Jesus gave a blueprint of how to pray acceptably to the Father in a less-than-30-second prayer. It was not long and tedious but a heartfelt expression of love and worship while entreating God for the needs of life. How different this powerful prayer prayed is from many of the unintelligible and haughty prayers that are prayed in so many homes and congregations in our world. Prayer is our lifeline to God and is of utmost importance in a Christian’s experience. This prayer can be prayed as written when spoken from the heart, or the elements of it can be incorporated into our daily prayers to our Heavenly Father. Lord, teach us to pray... ■

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Editorial



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

Take it to the Lord in prayer. Prayer changes things. Pray on until the answer comes. Prayer is the key. These songs and phrases resonate in my heart as I study the topic of this quarter: prayer. Prayer is often seen by Christians as a hardship and something to feel guilty about because it is often neglected. May the Spirit of God help us to understand that prayer is a privilege and a wonderful opportunity to be refreshed by the love and Spirit of God. It is an occasion to worship God and a time to cast our burdens upon the Lord. What a blessing to be able to pour out the depth of our heart to a God who loves us and is able and willing to help us carry our load.

There is great power in prayer when we approach God in faith. I have experienced miracles of healing, cast out devils, found peace in the time of much trouble, and more through the power of prayer. I have also prayed when it did not seem like anything changed; but that is when our faith must be fixed in the wisdom of God and not in the answer that we seek. Praying changes us, as it puts us in a place of dependence and reliance on God. It is then that God can work most effectively, for the power of prayer is not what we do but what God does for us in His goodness and mercy.

Prayer is not about following a list of rules of what to say or a perfect way of expressing ourselves. Prayer goes far beyond doctrine to a personal expression and interaction with our Lord and Saviour. I trust that we do not get bogged down in the doctrine. While important, it is of far greater importance to see the blessing of prayer. I was amazed as I studied and researched the many scriptures about prayer. This paper is just a sampling of what the Bible teaches and is in no way complete. My prayer is that each reader will be challenged to regularly find a quiet place with the Lord in prayer. You will find that it will enhance spiritual growth and will be the solution to many personal struggles, marriage problems, congregational difficulties, etc.; you will find that it changes you by the grace of God. Let us pray on with expectation.

Michael W. Smith

January 2020



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Praying at Mealtime



On multiple occasions we read in the Scripture of Christ praying before eating. "Looking up to heaven, he blessed, and brake, and gave the loaves to his disciples" (Matthew 14:19). In different passages, the gospel writers sometimes used the word "blessing" and others "gave thanks." It is interesting to note that Christ was most probably following the Jewish custom not of blessing the bread itself but giving thanks to God. Jews were forbidden to eat or drink without first acknowledging God by giving thanks.

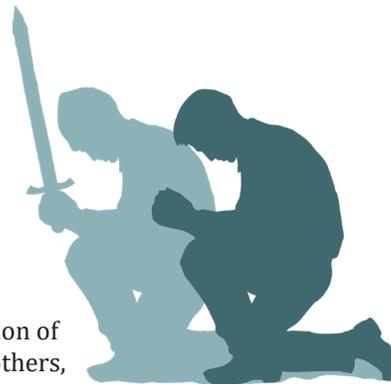
The Jewish blessing reads thus: "Blessed are you O Lord, our God, King of the universe, who brings forth bread from the earth!"

The custom and pattern then was not to "bless" the food but to give thanks or blessings to God who provided the food. Paul "took bread, and gave thanks to God in the presence of them all: and when he had broken it, he began to eat" (Acts 27:35).

It is a custom worthy of following to give God thanks for His provision at every meal in all settings, public or private.

Bible Study Guide

Subject: Prayer



Scripture Reading: *Pray without ceasing.* —1 Thessalonians 5:17

Definition: Prayer is communicating and interacting with God. It consists of “adoration, or an expression of our sense of God’s glorious perfections, confession of our sins, supplication for mercy and forgiveness, intercession for blessings on others, and thanksgiving” [Webster’s Dictionary, 1828].

Summary: Prayer is the essential by which mankind can have personal acquaintance and communion with God. Prayer is a medium by which to worship and glorify God. It is the avenue by which one may access salvation and the graces of the Spirit. It is the cord that reaches between Heaven and earth and enables man to know and understand the will of God. Prayer changes the heart and by faith, it can change circumstances though the power of God. It is one of the most vital ingredients to living a successful Christian life.

I. Prayer Commanded

- A. “Men ought always to pray.” Luke 18:1
- B. “Continue in prayer.” Colossians 4:2
- C. Ask, seek, knock. Luke 11:9-10

II. Purpose/Value/Power of Prayer

- A. Relationship/Communion. Genesis 5:24, Jeremiah 29:11-13, John 15:5.
- B. Worship. Psalm 103:1.
- C. Salvation. Acts 2:21.
- D. Healing. James 5:13-16.
- E. Grace/Strength. Hebrews 4:16.
- F. Wisdom. James 1:5.
- G. Release of care. 1 Peter 5:6-7, Psalm 107:28-30.
- H. Power to overcome. Matthew 26:41.

III. How to Pray

- A. In the name of Jesus. John 16:23.
- B. In faith. Hebrews 11:6.
- C. In humility. James 4:6.
- D. In the Spirit. Jude 1:20.
- E. With thanksgiving. Philippians 4:6.
- F. Without vain repetition. Matthew 6:7-8.

IV. Those for Whom God Hears and Answers Prayer

- A. The humble/repentant. 2 Chronicles 7:14.
- B. Those who need deliverance. Joel 2:32, Psalm 86:7.
- C. The righteous and obedient. James 5:16, 1 Peter 3:12, 1 John 3:22.
- D. Those who believe. Hebrews 11:6, Mark 11:24.

- E. In accordance to His will. 1 John 5:14-15.
- F. Intercession by the Spirit. Romans 8:26-27.

V. For Whom to Pray

- A. Ourselves. Psalms 55:16, 2 Corinthians 12:8-10.
- B. Saints/Ministers. 1 Thessalonians 1:2, Ephesians 6:18-19, 2 Thessalonians 3:1.
- C. Harvest laborers. Luke 10:2.
- D. Unsaved. Romans 10:1.
- E. Enemies. Matthew 5:44.
- F. Nations/Rulers. 1 Timothy 2:1-3.

VI. Hindrances to Prayer

- A. Sin. Proverbs 15:29, John 9:31.
- B. Wrong motives. James 4:3.
- C. Unforgiveness. Mark 11:25-26.
- D. Self-righteousness. Luke 18:9-14.
- E. Marriage problems. 1 Peter 3:7.

VII. Where to Pray

- A. Private. Matthew 6:5-6, Mat 14:23.
- B. Public. Acts 4:31, Acts 12:5,12.

VIII. Promises to Those who Pray

- A. “It shall be given you.” Matthew 7:7-8
- B. “If two of you shall agree.” Matthew 18:19
- C. “Ask what ye will.” John 15:7

Conclusion

But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer. —1 Peter 4:7

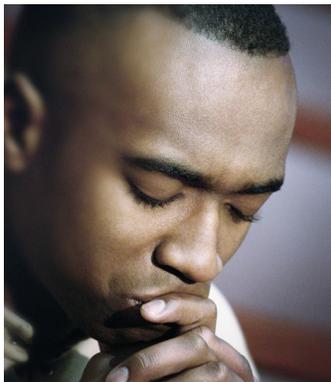
Doctrine of Prayer

THE CALL TO COMMUNE WITH OUR CREATOR

Prayer is a reflection of the relationship we have with God. It is a wonderful privilege to enter into the presence of God and communicate with Him at any time, any place, and in any situation. Prayer is not only a time of asking for something but a time of worship and spiritual renewal.

Instructed by Christ

Jesus instructed that “men ought always to pray, and not to faint” (Luke 18:1). This is repeatedly reinforced in the scripture: “Continue in prayer, and watch” (Colossians 4:2). It is God’s desire to have a close, personal relationship with mankind. A fulfilling relationship takes time and nurturing, and prayer is that avenue by which people can become connected with God. Without communication, there will not be much of a relationship. God wants us to daily walk with Him as did Enoch. Jesus entreated His disciples to abide in Him as a branch is connected to the vine. Prayer is a major source of abiding in Christ, partaking of His nature and bearing spiritual fruit. James 4:8 says, “Draw nigh to God and He will draw nigh to you.”



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Sincere & Heartfelt Worship

True prayer is more than quoting a memorized script. It is about seeking God diligently from the heart and reaching out to the Savior. “Ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will harken unto you. And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all of your heart” (Jeremiah 29:12-13). Prayer is a time to worship the Lord and exalt His name. It puts the heart and mind in a condition to receive from God and prompts obedience.

The Key to Unlock Doors

The value and power of prayer should never be underestimated, for genuine prayer is the key that unlocks many doors. It is the prayer of the heart that brings salvation to the soul. “Whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved” (Acts 2:21). It is prayer, petitioning God on His throne to divinely intervene in the natural course of things, that brings healing to the sick. “Is any sick among you? Let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him...and the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up” (James 5:14-15). Prayer changed things many times in the scripture and continues to do so for God’s people in this generation.

Come Unto Me

In the troubles, stresses, and problems of life, the invitation from God is to come with assurance “unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need” (Hebrews 4:16). It is in heartfelt, vulnerable prayer to the Lord that His grace is poured out to the seeking, needy soul. What peace and grace is often forfeited because people fail to spend time in prayer. Prayer is a place to cast our cares upon the Saviour and find relief (1 Peter 5:6-7). How beautifully Psalm 107:28-30 paints a picture of this reality: “Then they cry unto the LORD in their trouble, and he bringeth them out of their distresses. He maketh the storm a calm, so that the waves thereof are still. Then are they glad because they be quiet; so he bringeth them unto their desired haven.”

Two-Way Communication

Prayer is not just one-way communication; it is that time of quietness in the presence of God where the heart listens to the Spirit in meditation. This place of prayer equips the Christian to face the day with power from God. Even secular studies have shown that prayer reduces stress and anxiety and can promote a more positive outlook.

Prayer is the opportunity to seek God for guidance and wisdom (James 1:5). It is needful to “watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation” (Matthew 26:41). Prayer is the source of power to overcome the snares and pitfalls of the enemy.

How to Pray

The Bible teaches by precept and by example how to pray. Christians are to pray in the name of Jesus (John 16:23). There is power in the name of Jesus and it should be evoked with reverence and yet with authority. Individuals should seek God in faith, believing that God is a “rewarder of them that diligently seek him” (Hebrews 11:6). Acceptable prayer is with much humility of

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mind and spirit (James 4:6) without pride and self-righteousness. Requests should be made to the Lord with thanksgiving (Philippians 4:6) and gratefulness. Jesus taught His followers to pray in simplicity without “vain repetitions” (Matthew 6:7-8). God knows the need before it is even breathed in prayer. Prayers should never be spoken to impress others or for show but rather to connect with God in the Spirit. What a blessing to know that when the words and thoughts do not come because of heaviness of spirit and helplessness before God, the Spirit of the Lord will make “intercession for the saints according to the will of God” (Romans 8:26-27).



“What a blessing to know that when the words and thoughts do not come because of heaviness of spirit and helplessness before God, the Spirit of the Lord will make ‘intercession for the saints according to the will of God.’ ”

Whom the Lord Hears

The scriptures clarify in multiple places that God inclines His ear and answers the prayer of people when certain conditions exist. He answers the prayer of the humble and repentant soul (2 Chronicles 7:14). He answers the prayer of those who call on Him in need of deliverance (Joel 2:32). “The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much” (James 5:16). God honors the prayers of the righteous and of those who keep His commandments (1 John 3:22). He is moved on His throne and things change when prayer is in faith (Mark 11:24) and when asked in accordance to His divine will (1 John 5:14-15).

Effective Prayers

There are also conditions that will hinder the effectiveness of prayer. John 9:31 says, “Now we know that God heareth not sinners,” and Proverbs 15:29 states: “The Lord is far from the wicked: but he heareth the prayer of the righteous.” God is sovereign and will not answer every request, especially when people ask amiss for something to consume it upon their lusts (James 4:3). A spirit of unforgiveness (Mark 11:25-26) or self-righteousness (Luke 18:9-14) will also hinder prayer. Marriage problems and a lack of grace in the home will block the power of prayer. “Husbands...giving honor to the wife... that your prayers be not hindered” (1 Peter 3:7).

Topics of Prayer

There are many people and things for which the Bible teaches to pray. After worship and thanksgiving in prayer, it is in order to pray for oneself—for personal spiritual growth and strength, for emotional and temporal needs. Prayer for the family, for others in need, for the unsaved, for enemies, for the saints, for the ministers, for the Lord to send forth laborers, and for nations and rulers are all in keeping with the scripture and the purpose of prayer.

Private & Public Prayer

There are times of private prayer and times of public prayer exemplified in the Bible. Jesus Himself needed that source of strength from the Father and departed to pray alone many times. There are many records of God’s people praying together, interceding as one before the Father for specific needs. There is power in unified prayer and it rises as incense to the throne of God. Private prayer is the time to pour out the most personal needs before God. In public prayer, respect should be given to the listeners in the content and length of the prayer prayed.

When to Pray

Historically, the Jews had two seasons of prayer, morning and night; some added a third season at noon. Daniel prayed three times a day (Daniel 6:10). The New Testament does not command a specific time to pray but teaches to “Pray without ceasing” (1 Thessalonians 5:17). The child of God should have a continual spirit of prayer. It is also important to set aside specific time to pray and seek the Lord. What could be better than to take time in the morning before facing the day and then again at the close of the day? Spirituality will be cultivated by frequent and regular seasons of prayer and devotion.

Watch & Pray

Prayer is about connection with God and often it is as much or more about changing our mind and spirit than about receiving a temporal answer from God. There is great power and efficacy in prayer. In the words of the apostle Peter, “The end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer.” ■

TYPES OF PRAYER

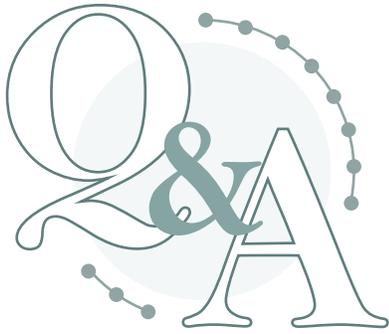
ADORATION
PRAISING GOD

CONTRITION
ASKING GOD’S FORGIVENESS

PETITION
ASKING GOD’S FAVOR

INTERCESSION
PRAYING IN BEHALF OF OTHERS

THANKSGIVING
SHOWING GOD GRATITUDE



What does the Bible teach about a private prayer language?

It is imperative that we be guided by the Bible and not by the experiences or practices of professed Christians. The scripture does not teach a private prayer language where the prayer is in an unknown, celestial language. Whose example better to follow than Christ Himself? Jesus taught His disciples to pray plainly and in simplicity (Matthew 6:9-13).

People often quote 1 Corinthians 14:14, "For if I pray in an unknown tongue, my spirit prayeth, but my understanding is unfruitful." Note that unknown was added by the translators and the word "tongue" is glossa, which means a foreign language. It does not mean incoherent babbling or praying. If someone is praying in a foreign language that the prayer understands but no one else

in the room understands, the understanding of the prayer is unfruitful, or unedifying, to the listeners in the room. Verse 15 further clarifies this: "What is it then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also: I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also."

Jesus also teaches in Matthew 6:7 not to use vain repetitions as the heathen do. Our prayers are to be prayed coherently with understanding and purpose of heart.

For further information on the subject of speaking or praying in tongues, please see Gospel Truth, Issue 9.

What is the proper posture in which to pray?

There is no one right way in which to physically position yourself to pray. Among the Jews before Christ, the most common way of praying was standing. Hannah appears to have been standing in the temple when she was praying for a child (1 Samuel 1:26). Jesus said, "When ye stand praying, forgive..." (Mark 11:25).

Kneeling in prayer was traditionally used during times of special solemnity, although we read of Daniel praying on his knees three times a day (Daniel 6:10). Solomon knelt at the dedication of the temple (1 Kings 8:54) and Ezra knelt upon his knees when he was in heaviness of heart before God (Ezra 9:5). David said, "Let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the Lord our maker" (Psalm 95:6). There are accounts of the saints in the New Testament kneeling down to pray in Acts 21:5 and Paul kneeling to pray in Acts 20:36.

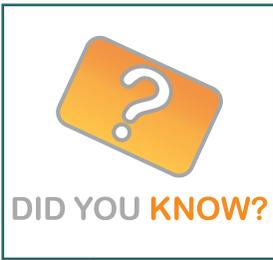
In the Old Testament, there are many recorded events of people praying prostrate, with the head on the ground, during times of great distress or sorrow. Elijah the prophet prayed with his face between his knees on the ground (1 Kings 18:42). The people during the time of Ezra worshiped with their faces to the ground (Nehemiah 8:6). We cannot forget our Saviour who "fell on his face, and prayed" (Matthew 26:39) in the garden of Gethsemane.

Scripturally, there are various ways to pray, and it would be man's thinking to establish a rule about a singular position in which to pray. Our time in prayer should be respectful and in honor and worship to the Lord. It is a blessing to be able to pray walking, driving, and lying down, but it is also important that the child of God not get lazy and forgo the meaningful, regular position of worship and quietness in which to pray.

It is noteworthy that the New Testament does teach that "men pray every where, lifting up holy hands" (1 Timothy 2:8). There are many examples of the Old Testament church praying with their hands lifted in either praise or supplication to the Lord God. While hands may not be lifted during every prayer, I find it compatible with the scripture to continue this practice in times of special praise or entreaty to the Lord.

How long should someone pray?

There is no assigned time that is correct for a session of prayer. Jesus' example in the Lord's prayer was less than 30 seconds. Jesus at times prayed all night while other times a shorter length. On one hand, some people do not pray enough, while others are under bondage and may pray many hours every day to the neglect of other responsibilities. The situation often dictates the length of prayer. When one is heavily burdened, private prayer may be lengthy or even through the night. It sometimes takes a time of prayer to get into the spirit of prayer. Normally, public prayer is not the time for long prayers. What is most important is that we make contact with God and take time to worship and entreat Him. Most people do not struggle with praying too much!



Prayer beads are used by many religions throughout the world, such as Hinduism, Buddhism, Christianity, Islam, Sikhism, etc. to mark the repetitions of prayers, chants or devotions. The English word “bead” comes from an Old English word “bede” which means prayer. While their origin remains uncertain, prayer beads seemed be used in some fashion by pagan civilizations over 36 centuries ago. Their earliest verified, recorded historical use dates back to Hinduism, hundreds of years before Christ.



Jesus taught His disciples not to pray like the heathen who use vain repetitions. Prayer is an opening of the heart to God, not rote memorization and repetition. The use of prayer beads is not in conformity to the teachings of Christ.



THE PRAYER OF JABEZ

And Jabez called on the God of Israel, saying, Oh that thou wouldest bless me indeed, and enlarge my coast, and that thine hand might be with me, and that thou wouldest keep me from evil, that it may not grieve me! And God granted him that which he requested.

—1 Chronicles 4:10

The prayer of Jabez encapsulates the power and beauty of a short prayer that God honored. Jabez began by calling on God to bless him. Surely we need the blessings of God on our lives, for without Him we are lost and in despair. It is God that gives us breath and every good gift. How much better to look to God for our help and strength than to place trust in our own ability or those around us. Others may fail but God is a constant, for He changes not.

Enlarge my coast, Lord. Help me to grow spiritually. Give me the strength and grace to gain more spiritual ground. Bestow upon my life the power to conquer the giants before me. Bring down the walls of the fortified places in my life. Expand my spiritual influence that I might share your gospel with people beyond my borders.

Lord, would you place your hand on my life? I cannot make it by myself. I humble myself before your throne and earnestly ask for you to extend your mercy. I need your guidance and direction. I need wisdom and inspiration. I am desperate for your anointing and your approval.

Father, keep me from evil that it might not destroy me. Help me to be sensitive to your Spirit. I have no righteousness of my own and I need you to open my blinded eyes that I might see. Show me the snares of the enemy. Keep me from the love of this world and from the deception of false religion. Your way is the only way that leads to Heaven, and I ask you to keep me safe and protect my soul that I might not sin against you.

God heard the prayer, and in simplicity, “God granted him that which he requested.” So God will do for us today, thank the Lord! Be of good courage, my fellow child of God, and let us pray on! ■

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HOLINESS UNTO THE LORD

Famous Prayers

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

JONAH'S PRAYER FOR SALVATION

Jonah 2:2-9

HEZEKIAH'S PRAYER FOR HEALING

2 Kings 20:1-5

SOLOMON'S DEDICATION PRAYER

1 Kings 8:22-53

JOSHUA THE HIGH PRIEST

Nehemiah 9:5-38

THE PRAYER OF JABEZ

1 Chronicles 4:10