

The Place of Prayer in the Christian Life and in the Church

Part I

Prayer is one of the greatest privileges given to believers, that being able to talk with God. ***Call unto Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know*** (Jeremiah 33:3 NKJV).

I. Why Should we Pray? Because:

1. We are _____ (Matt. 26:41; Mark 26:41; Eph. 6:18; Phil. 4:6; I Thess. 5:17).
2. The _____ of Christ (Mk. 1:35; 6:46).
3. The example of the _____ (Acts 10:9).
4. The example of the _____ believers (Acts 2:42).
5. Prayer _____ God (Proverbs 15:8).
6. Failure to pray is to _____ God (I Sam. 12:23).

II. What is Prayer

Definition: προσευχομαι – Speaking face to face with God.

Prayer is the conscious experience of humbly coming face to face with God, communicating with Him and declaring our dependence on Him (I John 5:14; Phil. 4:6; Heb. 4:16) Synonyms include: Petition, Intercession, Supplication.

Elements of Prayer

1. Thanksgiving (Colossians 4:2; Philippians 4:6).
2. _____ and worship (Matt. 6:9; Eph. 1:3; Ps. 145:1-3).
3. _____ (Psalm 51; Luke 18:13).

III. What Should We Expect Will Be Accomplished in Prayer?

1. Spiritual _____ (John 15:5-5, [9-12] 16; Gal. 5:22-23).
2. The _____ of the Lord (John 16:23, 24).
3. Peace – even during trials (John 14:27; Phil. 4:4-7).
4. Victory over _____ (Matt. 26:41).
5. _____ during persecution (Matt. 5:44; Psalm 7:1).
6. Assistance for all saints (Eph. 6:18; James 5:16; I Tim. 2:1).
7. Receiving _____ from God (Matt. 7:7-11).
8. _____ from affliction (James 5:13).
9. The _____ of others (I Tim. 2:4).

Summary Illustration – Psalm 109:21-22

1. Recognition of definite _____.
2. Acknowledgment of how that need can be _____ (Matt. 6:33).
3. Belief in the mercy and _____ of God (Heb. 11:6).

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