



PRAYER

“What wings are to a bird and sails to a ship, so is prayer to the soul.” - Corrie ten Boom

“Don’t pray when you feel like it. Have an appointment with the Lord and keep it. A man is powerful on his knees” - Corrie ten Boom

Prayer is conversation with God, talking and listening. We’re pretty lucky when it comes to prayer - unlike other religions where you have to pray to please a god, or beg to be forgiven for things you’ve done wrong - Jesus has already put us right with God. When we pray we can keep it simple: tell him how amazing he is, thanking God for the good He has done, confessing our wrong doings and asking Him to intervene in situations and what our part may be in that. We can pray about big things and small things and God is interested in both. Talking is important in any relationship, and talking with God changes our character. The Holy Spirit plays a part too - prompting us to pray for people

and giving us insight into situations. This means we may start talking to God about something we think is important, and end up talking to Him about something else that He thinks is important. Prayer is where we are challenged to make a difference to the world around us, be reminded that the world’s ideas of who we are and what’s important in life are not who God says we are or what God says is important in life. If prayer seems hard, remember there are many ways to pray. If you normally pray whatever comes to mind, try reading prayers written down and vice versa. Find somebody who God speaks to regularly and ask to join them. Praying with other Christians

can feel vulnerable but is also very encouraging. Jesus himself gave us a blueprint on how to pray in.

Matthew 6:9-13.

9 Pray like this:

Our Father in heaven,

 may your name be kept holy.

10 May your Kingdom come soon.

May your will be done on earth,
 as it is in heaven.

11 Give us today the food we need,

12 and forgive us our sins,

 as we have forgiven those who sin
against us.

13 And don’t let us yield to temptation,
 but rescue us from the evil one.

Check out the previous statement is true for yourself...

Ephesians 1:17
Ephesians 3:14
Romans 1:8
Romans 5:1-2
Colossians 3:17
Ephesians 6:18
Jude 20
Matthew 7:7
John 14:13-14
Philippians 4:6
1 John 5:14-15

When and what should we pray about

Colossians 4:2
2 Devote yourselves to prayer with an alert mind and a thankful heart.

Check out other scriptures about when & what...

Matthew 21:22
Mark 11:24
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18
Philippians 4:6-7
Romans 12:12

God promises to hear us when we pray

1 John 5:14
14 And we are confident that he hears us whenever we ask for anything that pleases him.

Check out other scriptures about this promise...

Jeremiah 29:12
Psalm 18:6
Psalm 143:1

Praying with and for others

Acts 1:14
They all met together and were constantly united in prayer, along with Mary the mother of Jesus, several other women, and the brothers of Jesus.

Check out other scriptures encouraging us to do this...

Matthew 5:44
Luke 6:27-28
Acts 7:60
Acts 13:3
1 Thessalonians 5:25
Hebrews 13:18-19
James 5:14-16
1 Timothy 2:1-2
Colossians 1:9-13

And finally when we can't pray...

Romans 8:26
And the Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness. For example, we don't know what God wants us to pray for. But the Holy Spirit prays for us with groaning's that cannot be expressed in words.

What does prayer look like for you at the moment?
What could it become? What would help that process?