

Why We Pray

1. Prayer is the conversational part of a love relationship with God. *Mark 11:17; Colossians 4:2; Luke 21:36*

“Prayer is the easiest and hardest of all things; the simplest and the sublimest; the weakest and the most powerful; its results lie outside the range of human possibilities - they are limited only by the omnipotence of God.”

- **E.M. Bounds**

2. Prayer is to be priority #1 in the church. *1 Timothy 2:1-3; 1 Thessalonians 5:17-18; Matthew 9:37-38*

3. When we pray, we bring...Praise to the Father. *Malachi 1:6; Malachi 1:11; John 14:12-14; Habakkuk 2:14*

4. When we pray, we cultivate Relationship through the Son. *John 17:3; Daniel 11:32*

5. When we pray, we come into Agreement with God's Word. *1 John 5:14*

a. God will give us wisdom if we ask him for it. (James 1:5,6)

b. God will reveal His secrets if we ask him for them. (Jer. 33:3)

c. God will give us His Holy Spirit if we ask Him for it. (Luke 11:13)

d. God will forgive us if we ask for it. (1 John 1:9, James 5:16)

e. God will heal us if we pray in faith. (James 5:14,15)

f. God will heal our land if we humble ourselves, pray, turn from our sin and seek His face. (2 Chronicles 7:14)

g. God will release speedy justice when we cry out day & night. (Luke 18:7,8)

h. God will give us whatever we ask. (Ps. 37:4; Mt. 18:19; Mt. 21:22; Mk. 11:24; Jn. 14:13,14; Jn. 15:7; Jn. 15:16; Jn. 16:23,24; James 4:2,3; 1 Jn. 3:21,22; 1 Jn. 5:14,15 - if we ask anything according to His will. Matt. 7:7; Eph. 3:20

i. Christ will return in response to our cries. (Rev. 22:17; Mt 23:39; Zech 12:10; 2 Peter 3:11,12; Isaiah 42:10-13; Revelation 8:1-5;)

6. When we pray, we Yield to/through the Holy Spirit that dwells within. *John 5:30; Hebrews 5:7; Galatians 6:8; John 17:21; Luke 18:7-8*

Praise to the Father

Relationship through the Son

Agreement with God's Word

Yield to/through the Holy Spirit.

Next week's reading guide:

Isaiah 56:1-8, Mark 1:35

Mark 11:12-25

Deuteronomy 4:1-9, Mark 6:46

1 Kings 8:22-61

Psalms 32:1-7, Luke 6:12

Jeremiah 29:4-14

Daniel 6:1-28

Discussion Questions:

1. Why do you think God calls His house a house of prayer (of all things)?
2. What has been your experience with prayer?
3. What intimidates you about prayer? What excites you?
4. What's a recent (or most memorable) answered prayer you've witnessed?
5. What (or who) do you want to commit to be praying for more often?