

:: Prayer ::

What is prayer?

- Jesus said “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” (John 14:6). This means that we can only approach God because of what Jesus has accomplished for us. On the basis of Jesus’s merits, we can come to know God and have access to His throne by prayer. Prayer is the privilege of touching the heart of the Father through the Son of God, Jesus our Lord.
- The bible says that “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:9). Confessing our iniquities, guilt, and failures before God is part of how we interact with God; it is part of prayer. The bible also tells us in Luke 18 (v10-14) that God justifies those who are honest and confess their sins to Him, rather than those who exalt themselves and deny their unrighteousness. God wants us to humbly admit our need for help, forgiveness, and strength to Him.
- The bible also says “Turn all your anxiety over to God because He cares for you” (1 Peter 5:7). Prayer is a place of intimate fellowship with God. Just as we would confide in a friend, we can cast all our worries and trials upon God, because He truly cares about us and knows what is best for us.

Why should I pray?

- The Lord Jesus instructed us to pray.
 - One of the simplest reasons to spend time in prayer is because the Lord instructed us to pray. “Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak” (Matthew 26:41). We have very little strength on our own. Jesus instructs us to pray because He knows that the way to overcome temptations is to be in close fellowship with God. Through prayer, we can enter the Lord’s presence and receive strength and grace.
- The Bible instructs us to pray.
 - “Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and petition with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God” (Philippians 4:6). We never have to carry our burdens alone. God is faithful and trustworthy, and He cares for us. This brings such peace to us in times of trial. Through prayer, let us claim our dependence on God, and present our needs and thankfulness to Him. This will also develop our relationship with God. Just like a marriage relationship, if you never speak to your spouse or never listen to anything your spouse might have to say to us, your relationship will quickly deteriorate. It is the same way with God. Prayer- communicating with God helps us grow closer and more intimately connected with God.
 - “And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints” (Ephesians 6:18). The idea here is that we can pray in any given circumstance. We can talk to God in spirit at all times. If there are saints around you who are in need, you can pray on their behalf too.

Does God Hear and Answer Prayer?

- Yes, God hears and answers prayer. Here are several examples of this promise from the Bible:
 - “If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you” (John 15:7).
 - “Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours” (Mark 11:24).

Conclusion

Prayer is how we interact with God. We can boldly come to God, standing upon the righteousness which we have through Jesus Christ. God cares about our lives and loves us unconditionally, and He wants us to share our anxieties and burdens with Him. Praying brings a peace to our spirits that is unlike any peace from this world. Through prayer, our relationship with God grows and becomes more intimate.

FAQ’s

1.) If it is God's will, why doesn't He just do it, apart from our prayers? Why would He wait to accomplish His will until we pray? (see 2 Cor 6:1)// 2.)What If I Don't Know How to Pray? (see Romans 8:26-27)// 3.)What about unanswered prayer? (see Romans 8:28)