

PRAYER

KINDS OF PRAYER

Praise & Adoration	Thanksgiving	Confession
Intercession	Supplication & Petition	Meditation on Scripture
Lamentation foretelling way)	Imprecation	Prophecy (Praying by the Spirit in a

THE CONDITIONS FOR “POSITIVELY ANSWERED” PRAYER - We as Believers Must:

Abide in Christ – John 15:7

Have the words of Christ abiding in us – John 15:7

Ask – James 1:5; 4:2

Ask according to God’s Will – I John 5:14; Matt. 26:39-42 (Mark 14, Luke 22); Matt. 6:10

Ask in Christ’s Name – John 14:13-14; 15:16; 16:23

Ask in Faith – Matt. 21:22 (Mark 11:24); James 1:6-7; 5:15-16; Matthew 17:14-21 (Mark 9:14-29)

Forgive those who have wronged us – Matt. 6:12; Mark 11:25-26 (Matt. 6:14-15)

Pray in the Spirit – Eph. 6:18; Jude 20

Be Earnest & Fervent – James 5:16-17; Col. 4:2

Be Vigilant – Col. 4:2

Be Without Worry – Phil. 4:6

Be Bold – Hebrews 4:16

Persevere – Luke 18:1-8; I Thess. 1:3; 5:17; Col. 4:12; widow lady – keep on asking

Obey God – I John 3:22

Called for by the elders – James 5:13-16

Linked to Thanksgiving – I Thess. 5:18; Phil. 4:6

Sometimes Linked to Fasting – Ezra 8:21-23; Daniel 9:3; Matthew 6:16-18; 17:14-21 (Mark 9:14-29); I Cor. 7:5

HINDRANCES TO ANSWERED PRAYER:

NOT doing any of the above Conditions; and additionally...

Ignorance of Men – Luke 11:1; Romans 8:26

Sin in one’s heart - Psalm 66:18; Prov. 28:9; Isaiah 59:1

Weak flesh / fainting / Human Exhaustion – Matt. 26:40-45 (Mark 14, Luke 22)

Vain Repetition – Matthew 6:7

To be seen of men – Matt. 6:16-18

Asking “Amiss” or with selfish motives – James 4:3

Marital Conflict – I Peter 3:7

PRAYER THOUGHTS

Of all the spiritual disciplines prayer is the most central because it ushers us into perpetual communion with the Father.

To pray is to change.

In real prayer we begin to think God's thoughts after Him.

We must hear, know, and obey the will of God before we pray it into the lives of others.

We should never make prayer too complicated. Jesus taught us to come like children to a father.

We should never wait until we feel like praying before we pray for others.

One of the main reasons for a lack of godliness is prayerlessness.

Often we do not pray because we doubt that anything will actually happen if we pray.

When there is little awareness of real need, there is little real prayer.

REASONS FOR PRAYER – in other words... WHY PRAY?

- 1. Prayer is Expected – Matt. 6:5-9; Luke 11:9; 18:1**
- 2. Prayer is Commanded – I Thess. 5:17; Col. 4:2**
- 3. Prayer is Learned – Luke 11:1 – “Lord, teach us to pray” –
A) By Praying; B) by Meditating on Scripture; C) By Praying with Others; D) By Reading about Prayer**

As we learn to pray, God teaches us about: ourselves, God, others, and life in general

NOTE: Perhaps we learn more about ourselves, God, others and life, when we get NO or WAIT answers from God.

- 4. Prayer is Fellowship with God** – even if God never acted on our behalf or on the behalf of others, we would enjoy the wonderful privilege of fellowshiping with God. Is it enough to know God, or do we need Him to do something for us too?
God and
- 5. Prayer is Answered - Prayer moves God to act – YES, NO or WAIT - Phil. 4:6-7; Psalm 65:2; Matt. 7:7-8;**