

Read 1 John 5:14-15.

Memorize 1 John 5:14

“This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us.”

#4

The Purpose of Prayer

Jesus set the perfect example of obedience in prayer. Although His day was filled from morning to night with many pressures and responsibilities -- addressing crowds, healing the sick, granting private interviews, traveling, and training His disciples -- He made prayer a top priority. If Jesus was so dependent upon His fellowship in prayer alone with His Father, how much more you and I should spend time alone with God.

The lives of the disciples and other Christians who have been used mightily by God through the centuries to reach their world for Christ all testify to the necessity of prayer. They are examples of obedience to our Lord's command to pray.

Someone has wisely said, "Satan laughs at our toiling, mocks our wisdom, but trembles when he sees the weakest saint on his knees."

This lesson will help you understand why prayer is so important to our Christian life.

PRAY before you start! Answer the questions briefly and in your own words.

Read John 16:24

1. What is prayer?
2. In whose name should we pray?
3. What results from prayer?

Why Pray?

Read John 14:13, I Thessalonians 5:17, Acts 4:23-33, and Matthew 9:38.

1. Identify at least three reasons for prayer.

The Apostle's motive.

Read Acts 4.

2. What problems did the Apostles face and why did they not ask God to remove the persecution?

3. For what did they pray? (Verse 29) Why is this significant?

4. What was their real motive? (John 14:13)

Your Motives for praying.

5. As a believer in Christ you have been given a special opportunity, according to Hebrews 4:16. What is it, and why was it given to you?

6. Because God is the believer's refuge, what are you told to do? (Psalm 62:8).

7. How does 1 Thessalonians 5:17 relate to this verse?

8. On the basis of your personal experience, list at least four reasons you pray.

Prayer meets the heart's needs.

Not only do Christians have the privilege of talking with God about everything, they also experience great benefits from their communication with God.

9. What truth do you find both in Jeremiah 33:3 and Ephesians 3:20?

10. Paul wrote in Philippians 4:6-7 about a powerful key to freedom from anxiety.

What are you to do?

Why do you feel God is interested in every area of your life?

What is God's promise?

In what area can you immediately begin to apply this truth?

11. According to 2 Corinthians 3:5, what is the source of the Christian's sufficiency? How do you tap into that source? (Hint: it is what this study is about!)

Life Application.

12. What conclusions can you now make concerning your relationship with God in prayer?

13. Begin a prayer list. Keep a record of the things for which you pray.

From memory, write out your memory verse below.

Want to be a part of a small group that studies the foundations of Christianity? Want to get connected with other Christians? Tell me!!