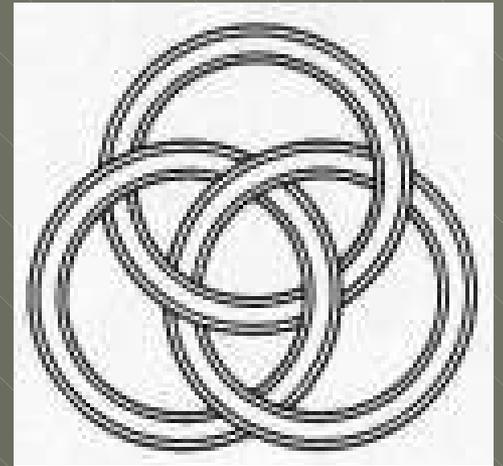




The Lord's Prayer

God gives you



a Privilege...

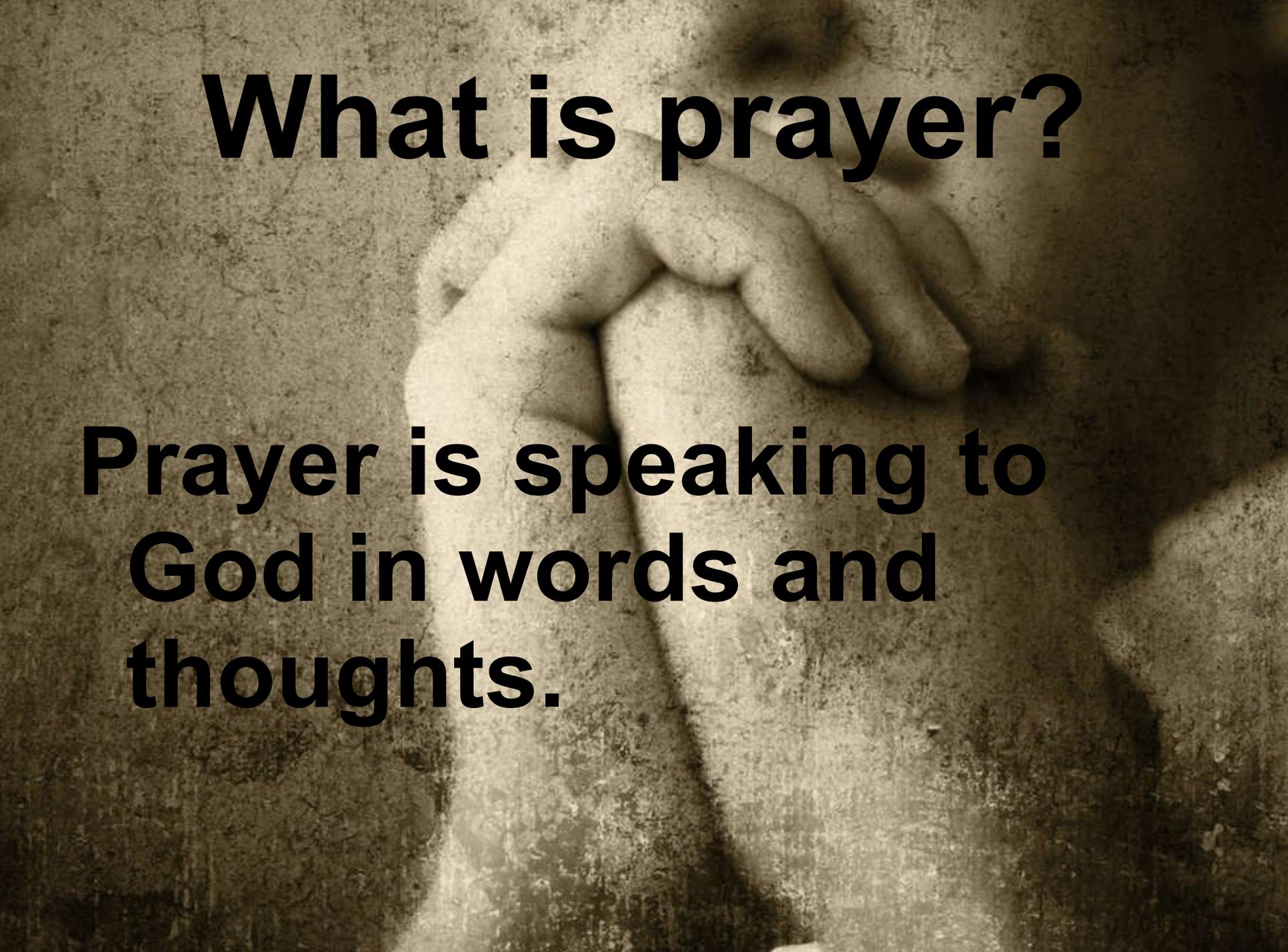
a Command...

What privilege and command does God give to those who believe?

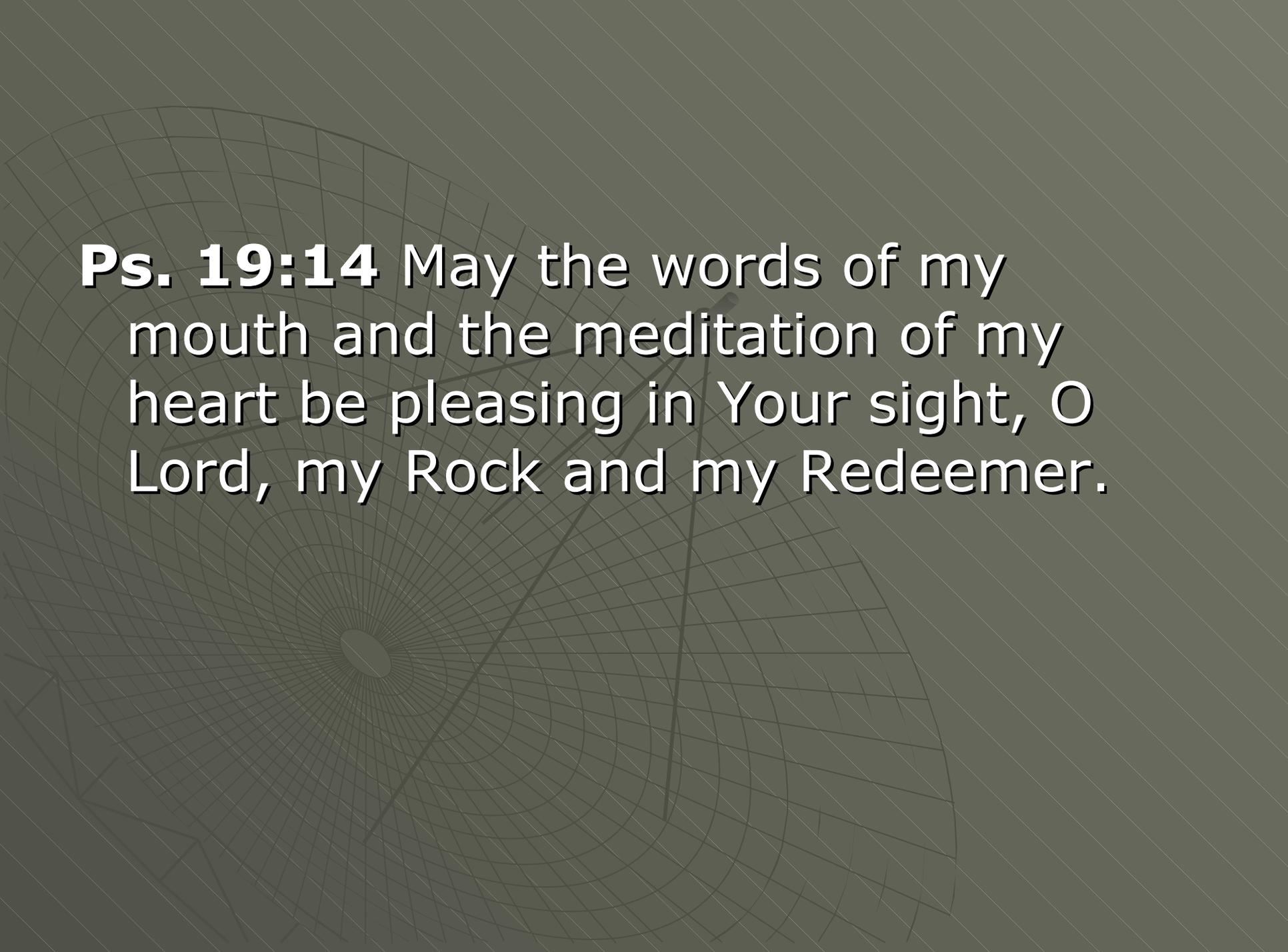


**God commands and
invites believers in Jesus
Christ to pray.**

What is prayer?



**Prayer is speaking to
God in words and
thoughts.**



Ps. 19:14 May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in Your sight, O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.

Bible narratives:

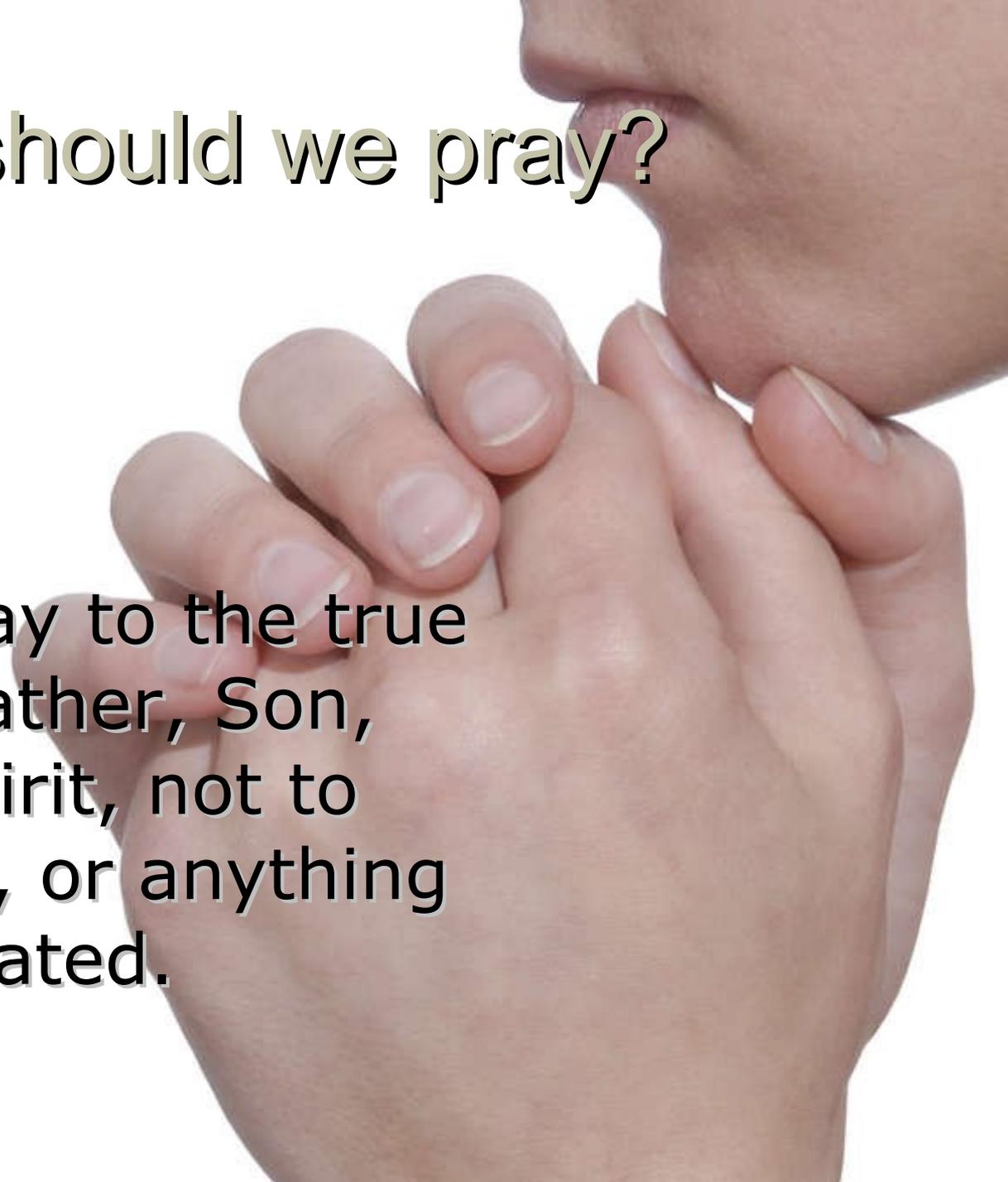
- Abraham prayed for Sodom (**Gen. 18:22–23**).
- Jesus in Gethsemane (**Matt. 26:36–44**).
- Thanksgiving for the release of Peter and John from prison (**Acts 4:23–31**).



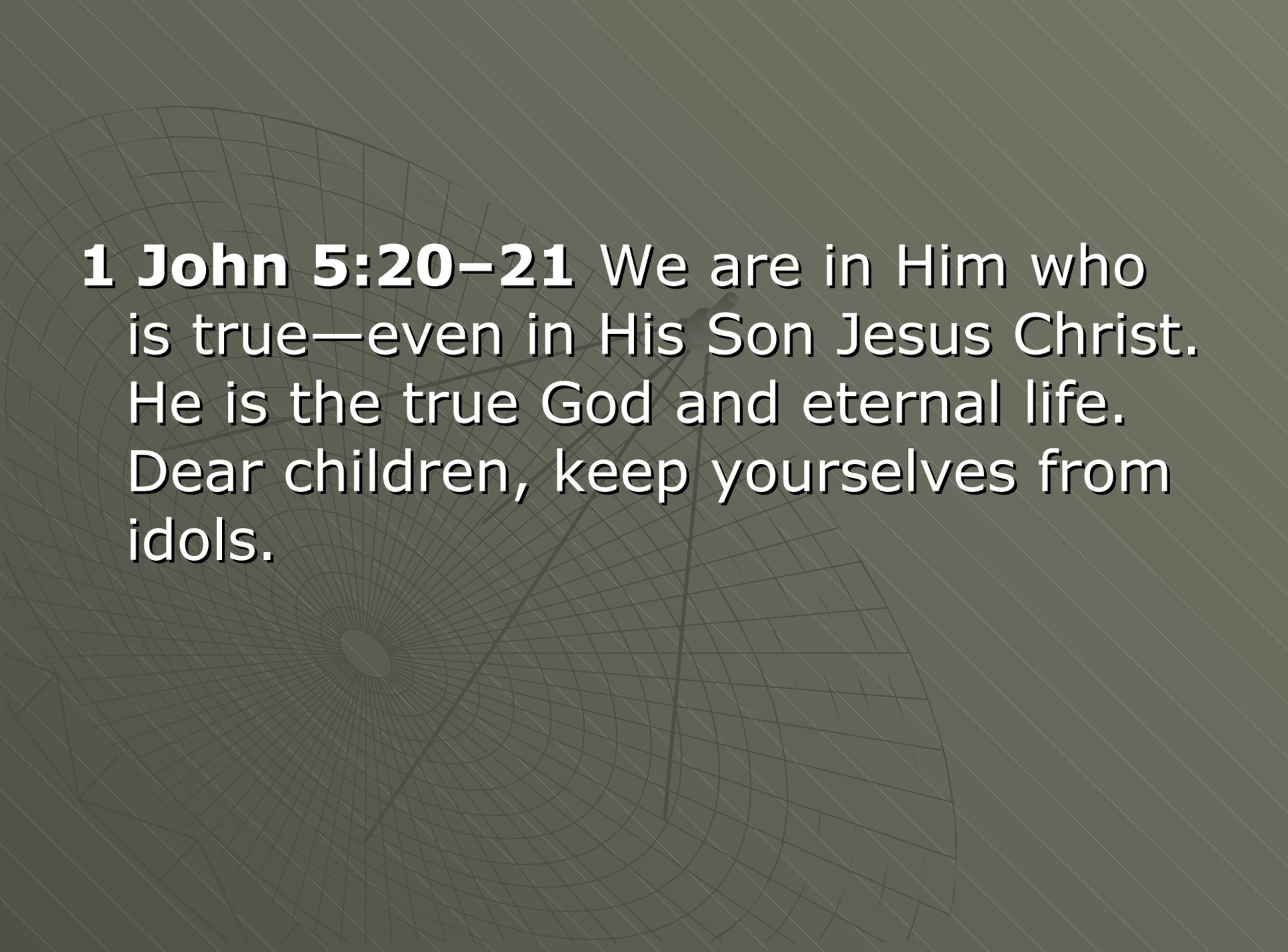
To Whom should we pray?



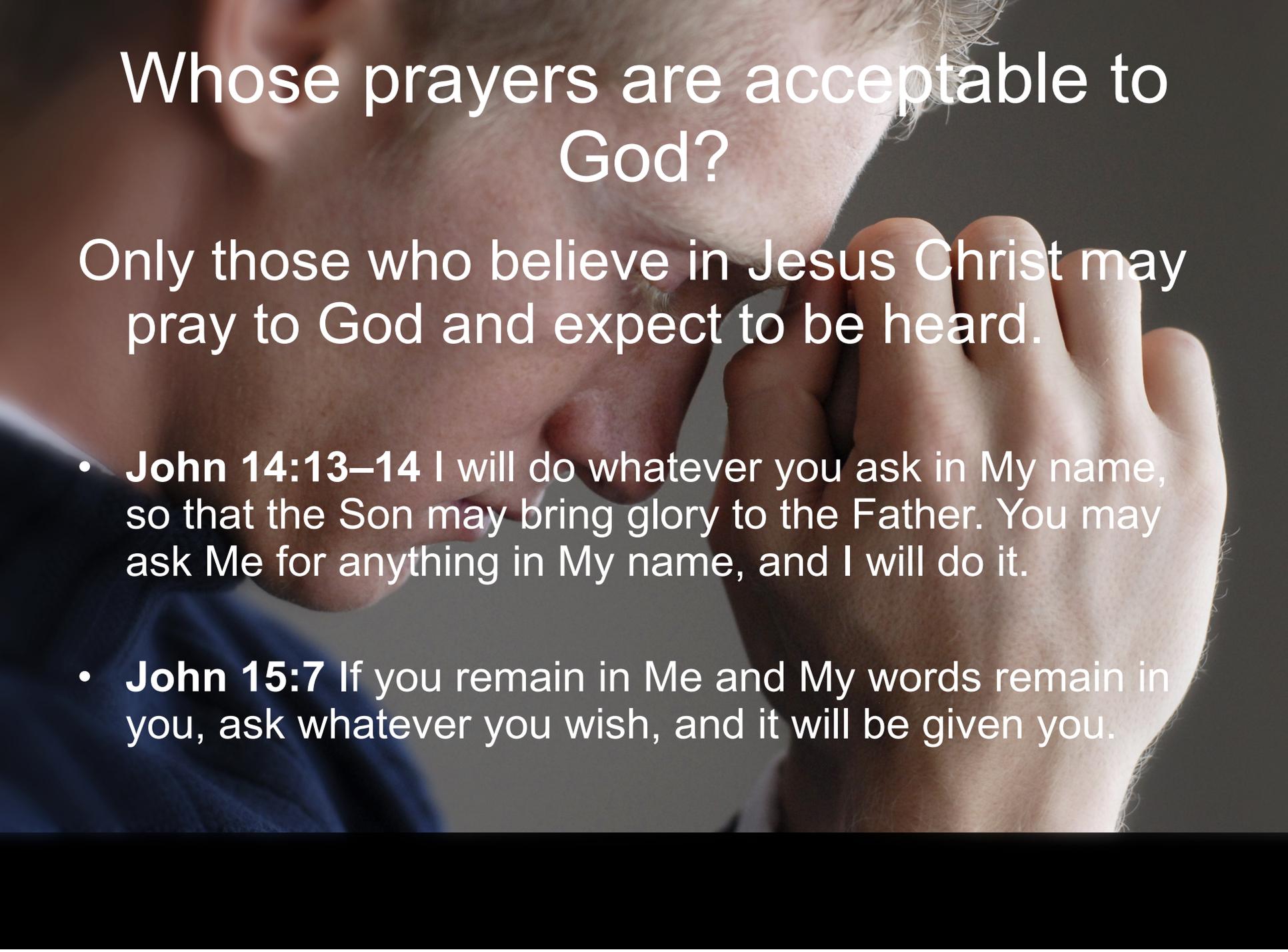
We should pray to the true God only, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, not to idols, saints, or anything God has created.



- *Bible narratives:*
- Elijah and the priests of Baal (**1 Kings 18:25–29, 36–39**)
- Daniel in the lions' den (**Dan. 6:1–23**)
- Paul in Lystra (**Acts 14:8–18**)
- Jesus' High Priestly Prayer (**John 17**)



1 John 5:20–21 We are in Him who is true—even in His Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life. Dear children, keep yourselves from idols.



Whose prayers are acceptable to God?

Only those who believe in Jesus Christ may pray to God and expect to be heard.

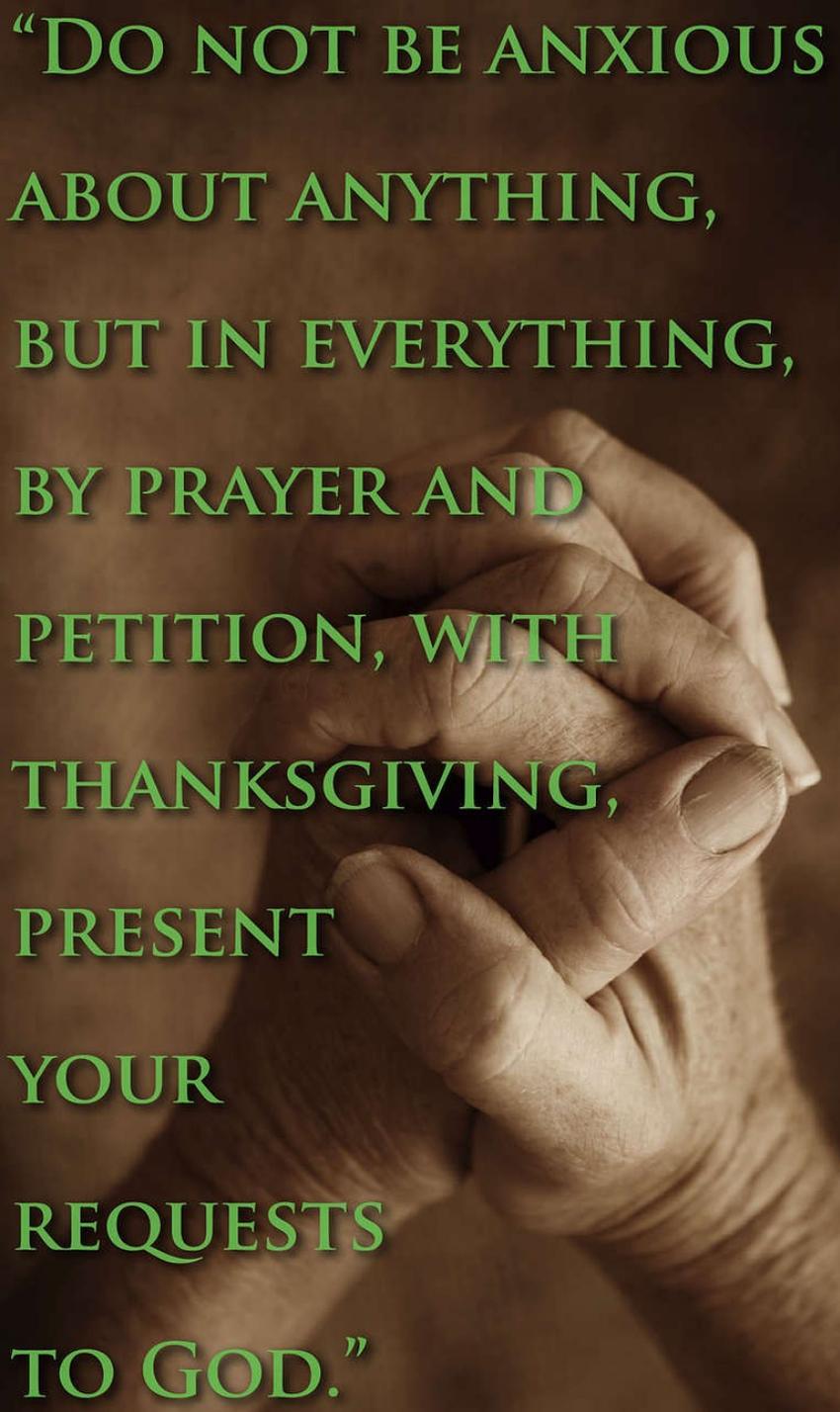
- **John 14:13–14** I will do whatever you ask in My name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. You may ask Me for anything in My name, and I will do it.
- **John 15:7** If you remain in Me and My words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you.



What should
be the content
of our prayers?

In our prayers we should ask

- ▶ for everything that tends to the glory of God and to our own and our neighbor's welfare,
- ▶ both spiritual and bodily blessings.
- ▶ We should also praise and thank God for who He is and what He has done.



“DO NOT BE ANXIOUS
ABOUT ANYTHING,
BUT IN EVERYTHING,
BY PRAYER AND
PETITION, WITH
THANKSGIVING,
PRESENT
YOUR
REQUESTS
TO GOD.”

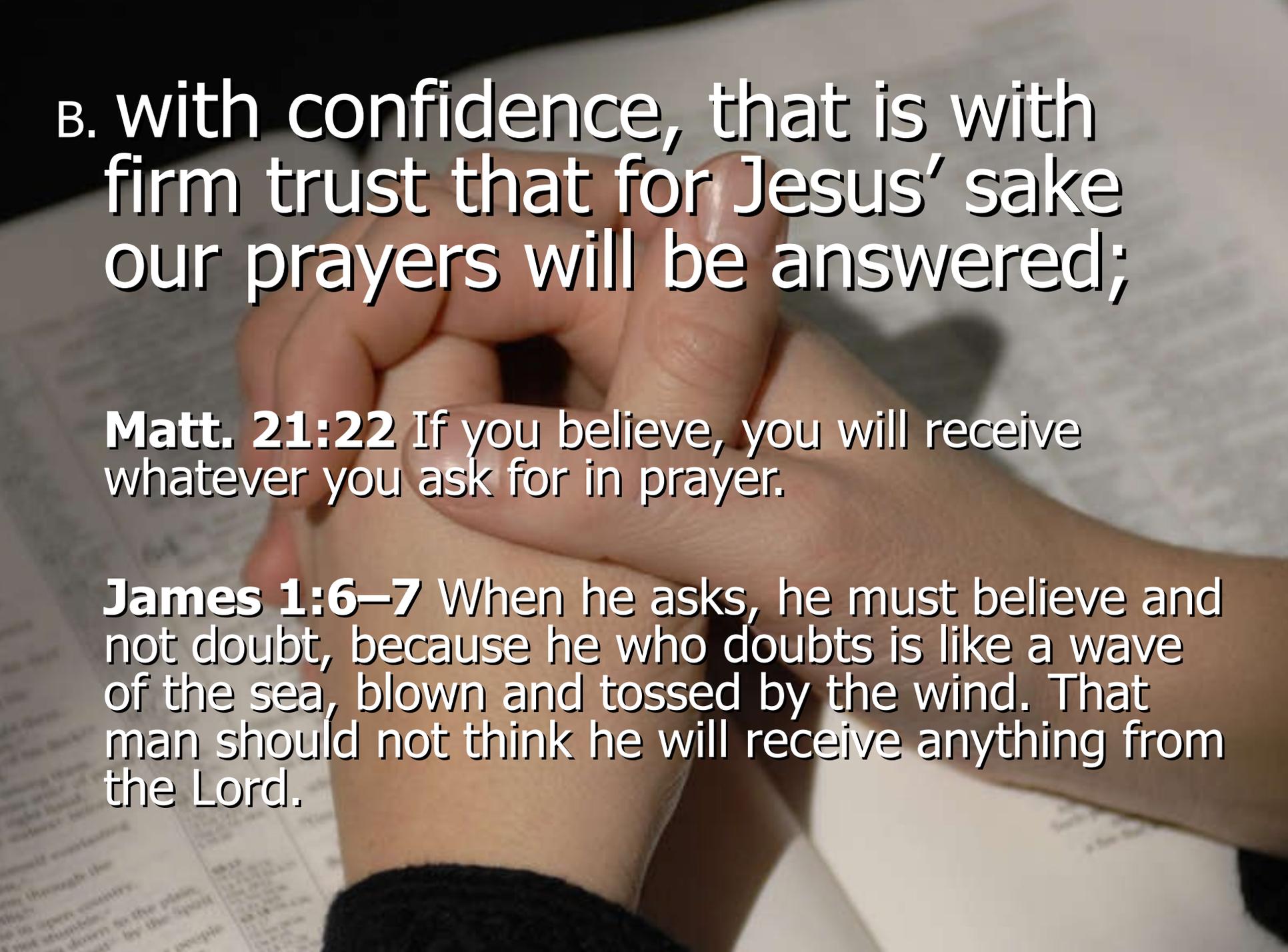
PHILIPPIANS 4:6, NIV

How should we pray?

We should pray:

A. in the name of Jesus, that is, with faith in Him as our Redeemer;

John 16:23 I tell you the truth, My Father will give you whatever you ask in My name.



B. with confidence, that is with firm trust that for Jesus' sake our prayers will be answered;

Matt. 21:22 If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer.

James 1:6–7 When he asks, he must believe and not doubt, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. That man should not think he will receive anything from the Lord.

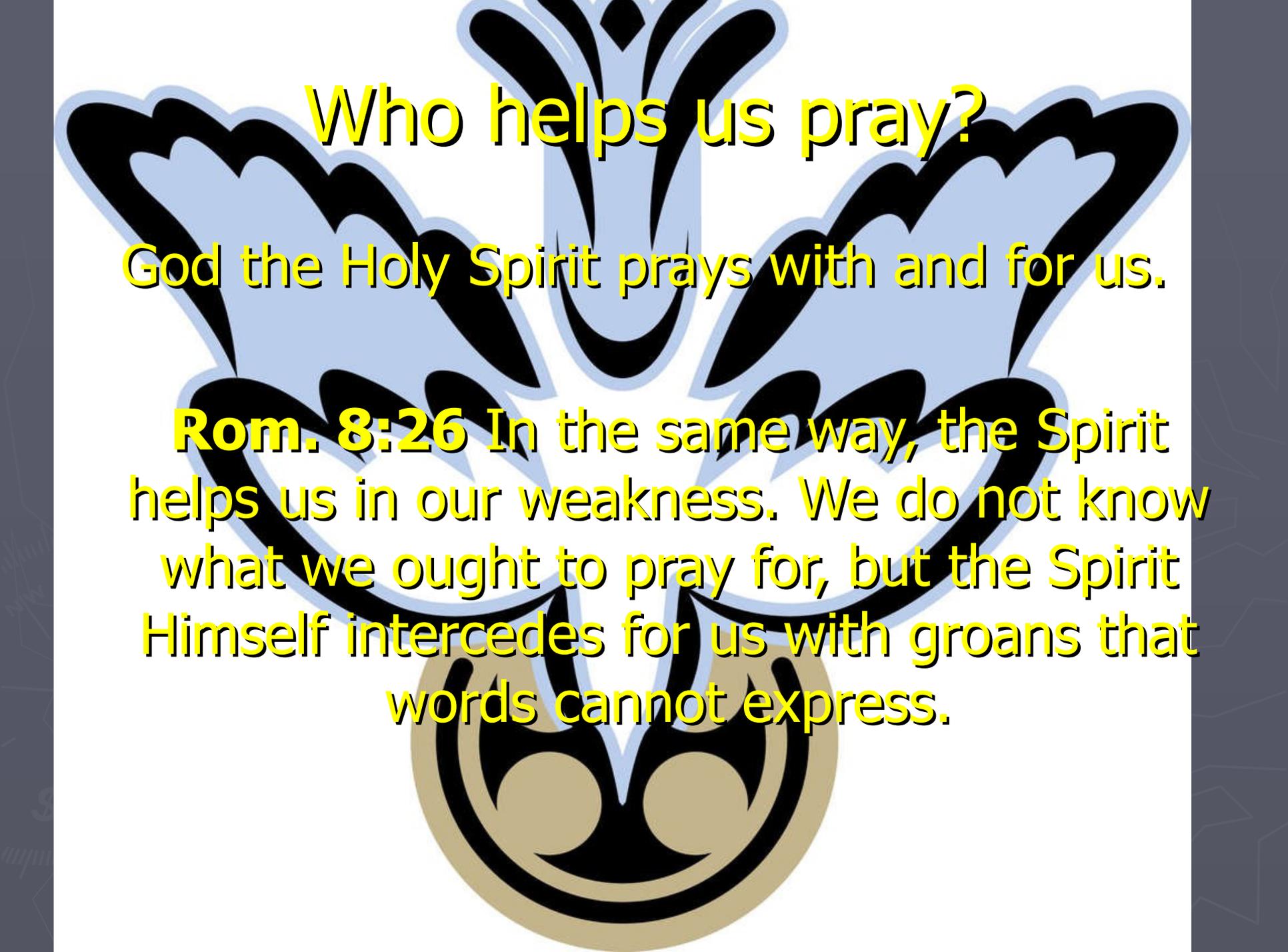
c. according to God's revealed will.

Luke 11:13 If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!

Luke 22:42 Father, if You are willing, take this cup from Me; yet not My will, but Yours be done.

Matt. 8:2 A man with leprosy came and knelt before Him and said, "Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean."

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.



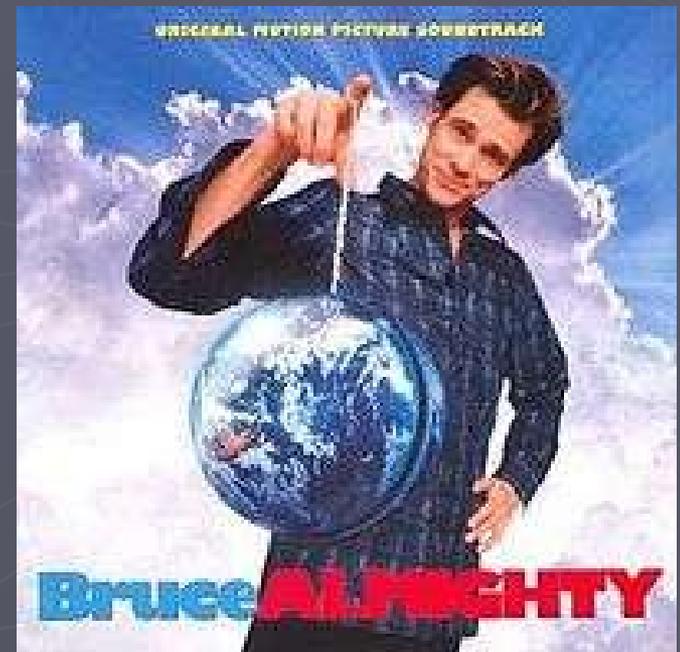
Who helps us pray?

God the Holy Spirit prays with and for us.

Rom. 8:26 In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express.

How does God answer prayers?

God hears the prayers of all Christians and answers in His own way and at His own time.



Thorn in the flesh

- ▶ **2 Cor. 12:8–9** Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. But He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me.

For whom should we pray?

We should pray for ourselves and for all other people, even for our enemies, but not for the souls of the dead.

- ◆ **1 Tim. 2:1–2** I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone—for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.

Bible narratives:

- ◆ The tax collector prayed for himself (**Luke 18:13**).
- ◆ Abraham prayed for Sodom (**Gen. 18:23–32**).
- ◆ The Canaanite woman prayed for her daughter (**Matt. 15:22–28**).
- ◆ Jesus prayed for His enemies (**Luke 23:34**).
- ◆ Stephen prayed for his enemies (**Acts 7:60**).



Where should we pray?

We should pray everywhere,
especially when we are:

- ✓ alone
- ✓ with our families
- ✓ in church.



1 Tim. 2:8 I want men everywhere to lift up holy hands in prayer, without anger or disputing.

Matt. 6:6 When you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.



Luke 5:16 Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed.

Acts 12:5 Peter was kept in prison, but the church was earnestly praying to God for him.

When should we pray?

We should pray:

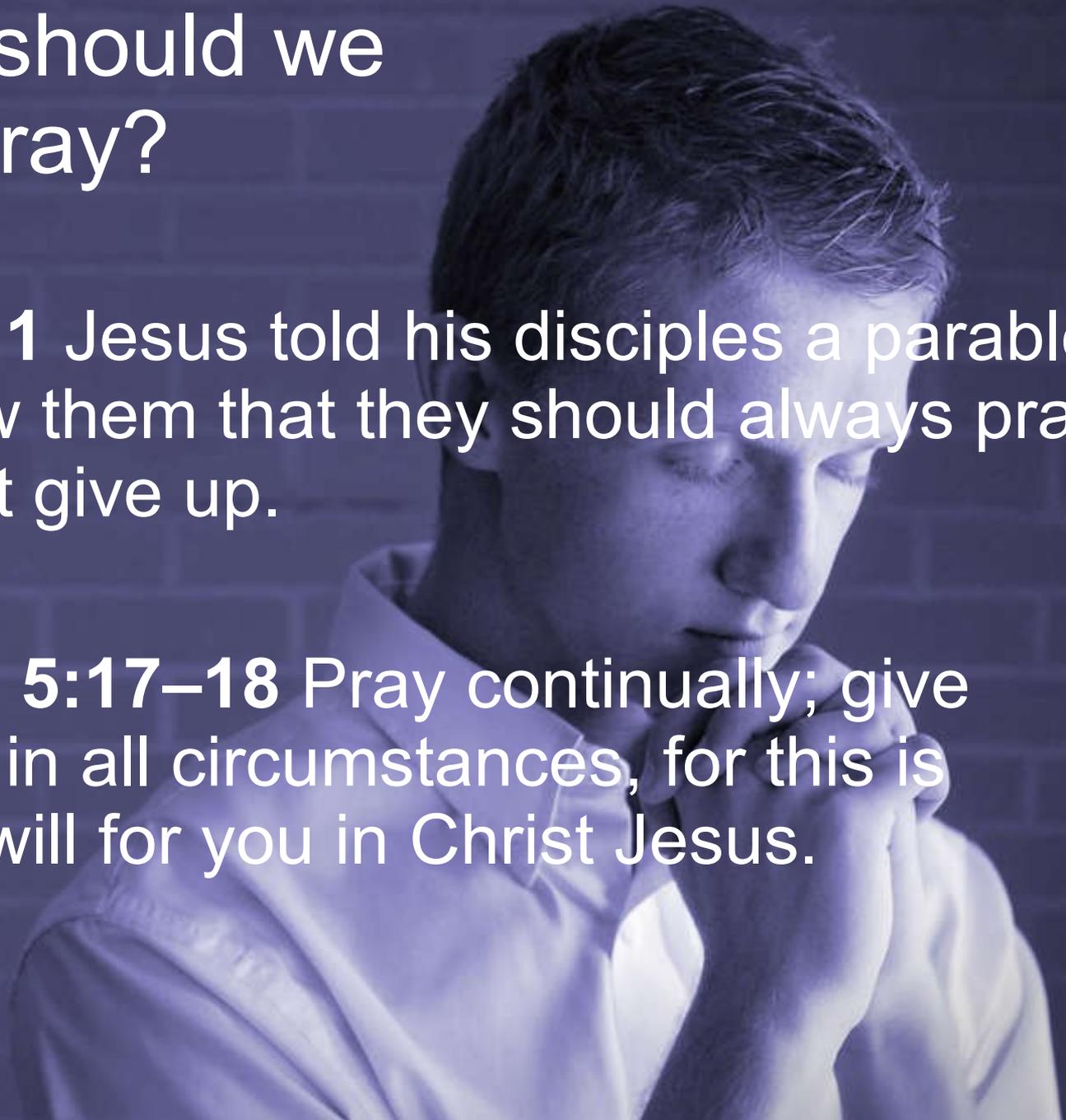
- regularly
- Frequently
- especially in time of trouble



When should we pray?

Luke 18:1 Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up.

1 Thess. 5:17–18 Pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.



In the morning when you get up, make the sign of the holy cross and say:

In the name of the Father and of the \dagger Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Then, kneeling or standing, repeat the Creed and the Lord's Prayer. If you choose, you may also say this little prayer:

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Luther's Morning Prayer



In the evening when you go to bed, make the sign of the holy cross and say:

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Then kneeling or standing, repeat the Creed and the Lord's Prayer. If you choose, you may also say this little prayer:

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Then go to sleep at once and in good cheer.

Luther's Evening Prayer



ASKING A BLESSING

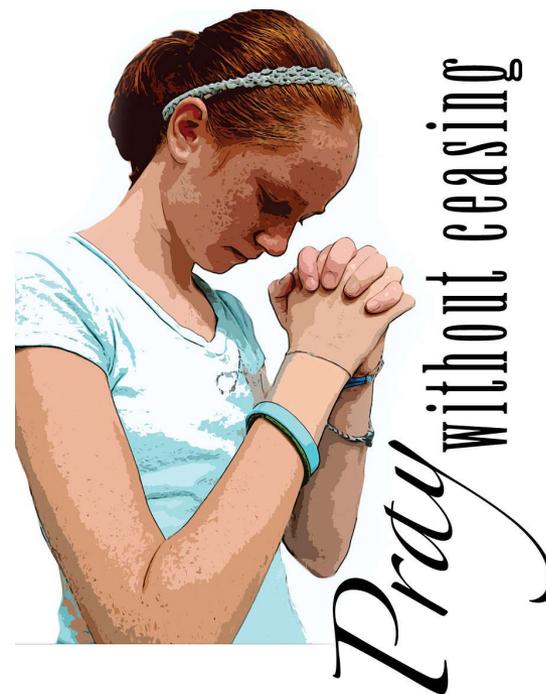
The children and members of the household shall go to the table reverently, fold their hands, and say:

The eyes of all look to You, [O Lord,] and You give them their food at the proper time. You open Your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing. **[Ps. 145:15–16]**

Then shall be said the Lord's Prayer and the following:

Lord God, heavenly Father, bless us and these Your gifts which we receive from Your bountiful goodness, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Luther's Meal Prayers



Returning Thanks

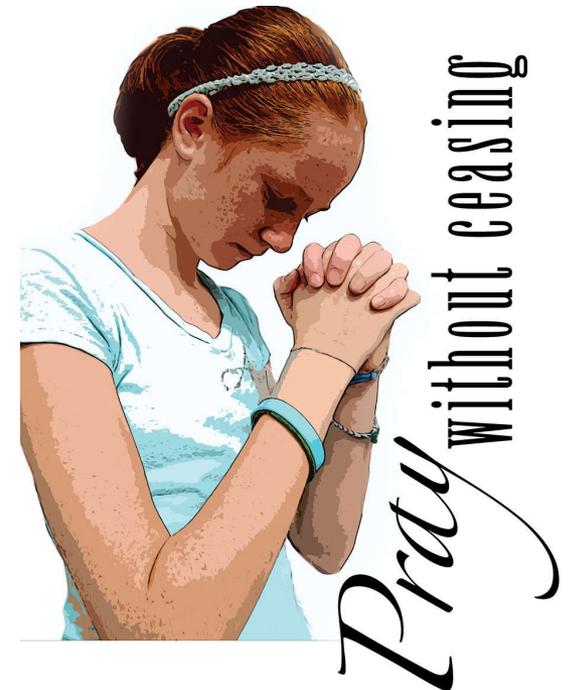
Also, after eating, they shall, in like manner, reverently and with folded hands say:

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good. His love endures forever. [He] gives food to every creature. He provides food for the cattle and for the young ravens when they call. His pleasure is not in the strength of the horse, nor His delight in the legs of a man; the Lord delights in those who fear Him, who put their hope in His unfailing love. **[Ps. 136:1, 25; 147:9–11]**

Then shall be said the Lord's Prayer and the following:

We thank You, Lord God, heavenly Father, for all Your benefits, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit forever and ever. Amen.

Luther's Meal Prayers



What prayer did Jesus give us to show how to pray?

“And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret.

And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. “And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. Pray then like this:

“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses." (Matthew 6:5-15, ESV)

The Holy Bible : English standard version. 2001.
Wheaton: Standard Bible Society.