

Speaking To God

A black silhouette of a person kneeling in prayer, with hands clasped together, positioned on the left side of the image. The background is a textured, light brown surface with a yellow-green wavy border at the bottom.

Building Your Relationship with God

Introduction:

- God hears and answers prayer. *1 Jn. 5:14-15*
- Prayer is not a ritualistic performance, but it's talking to God. *Lk. 11:2; Jn. 17*
- We shouldn't allow a lack of knowing what to say prevent us from praying.
Romans 8:26-27; 1 Timothy 2:3-4
- What is more natural between two who love each other than communication?
 - **Prayer is one way that we communicate with God.**



Why Pray?

- It's to be the most central part of the Christian's life. ***Luke 11:1***
- It's part of the whole armor of God. ***Eph. 6:13, 18; 1 Tim. 6:12***
- It is commanded. ***1 Thes. 5:17***



What is Prayer?

- A spiritual communion with God. **Acts 2:42**
- It's as Universal as man. **Genesis 4:26;**
Ps. 65:2
- Prayer includes:
 - Giving of praise... **Mt. 6:9**
 - Giving of thanks... **Eph. 5:20; 1Thes. 5:18**
 - Confession of our sins... **1 Jn. 1:9; Acts 8:22**
 - Supplication (a request)... **Phil. 4:6-7; Lk. 23:34**



What Is God's Will Concerning Prayer?

- He wants us to pray continuously. Talk to Him!
- So that we do not lose heart... ***Luke 18:1***
 - To help us always remember our great helper!
Heb. 13:5-6
 - ***Psalm 54***: A prayer – song ***cf. Romans 15:4***
- Pray for all people... ***1 Tim. 2:1-2***
 - So we might live quiet peaceable lives, etc.



Whose Prayer Will God Not Hear?

- Those who turn away from His law.
Proverbs 28:9
- Those who have wickedness in their hearts. ***Ps. 66:18***
- The proud... ***Job 35:12***
- Sinners... ***John 9:31***



Whose Prayer Will God Hear?

- Those who worship Him. ***John 9:31;***
Matthew 7:21
- The humble. ***Psalms 9:12***
- The righteous. ***1 Peter 3:12***
- Those who keep His commandments.
1 John 3:22



How Then Should We Pray?

- We should pray in the spirit of forgiveness.
Mark 11:25
- We must pray in faith. ***James 1:6***
- We must pray in harmony with God's will.
1 John 5:14
- We must pray in the name of Christ.
Colossians 3:17
- We must pray in the spirit of sincerity.
Matthew 6:5



Why Then Do We Feel Some Prayers Go Unanswered?

- **Because many prayers go unfinished!**
 - Pray for health - must obey laws of health. ***Eph. 5:28-29; 1 Cor. 3:17***
 - Pray for sick – help them get well. ***Jas. 5:14; Gal. 6:10***
 - Pray for bereaved – must comfort them. ***1 Thes. 5:14***
 - Pray for wisdom – must study. ***Jas. 1:5***
 - Pray for spiritual growth – must take spiritual food. ***Matthew 4:4***



Why Then Do We Feel Some Prayers Go Unanswered?

- **Because many prayers go unfinished!**
 - Pray for salvation of sinners, then you must seek and study. ***Luke 19:10***
 - Pray for unity of the church, then you must work for unity. ***Eph. 4:3***
 - Pray for enemies, then must work and do good to our enemies. ***Luke 6:27***
 - Pray for the church to fill and grow spiritually, then you must be a faithful member.
Hebrews 10:24-26



Application of Prayer (Speaking to God)

- Set a regular time to pray every day.
- Devotional prayer time should include at least four aspects represented by the word A C T S.
 - Adoration. ***1 Chronicles 29:10-13***
 - Confession. ***Proverbs 28:13***
 - Thanksgiving. ***Philippians 4:6***
 - Supplication. ***John 14:13***



Come To Jesus Today!

- He wants you to be saved now and saved eternally. ***1 Tim. 2:4; 2 Tim. 2:10***
- ***You can start your life with Jesus by...***
 - Hearing and believing the gospel. ***1 Cor. 15:3-4***
 - Repenting of sin. ***Luke 13:3***
 - Confessing your faith in Jesus. ***Acts 8:37***
 - Being baptized into Christ, washing away your sins. ***Romans 6:3-6; Acts 22:16***
 - Then you must be faithful to Christ. ***Rev. 2:10***

