

HOW TO NOT PRAY
BACK TO THE BASICS: BUILDING A FAITH THAT LASTS
ROCKY RIVER CHURCH – AUGUST 31, 2025 – WK. 2 OF 4
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THREE LESSONS ABOUT PRAYER:

#1. Human beings are _____.

#2. Most people don't _____.

#3. It takes _____ to learn to pray.

“One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray...” -Luke 11:1

Matthew 6:5-8 (NIV)

⁵“And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. ⁶But 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. ⁷And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. ⁸Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

THREE THINGS NOT TO DO WHEN YOU PRAY

#1. Do not _____ prayer.

“And when you pray...” -Matthew 6:5a

☐ **Prayer is about discipleship.** Being a disciple of Jesus Christ means following in his footsteps, which includes praying like Him.

#2. Do not pray _____ other people.

“Do not be like the hypocrites...” Matthew 6:5b

☐ The point here is not that public prayer is bad. The point Jesus makes is that even public prayer should be in the style of private communication with God.

#3. Do not pray to _____ God.

“And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.” -Matthew 6:7-8

MY NOTES/NEXT STEPS

