

Luke 11:1 He was praying in a certain place, and when he finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John also taught his disciples."

I. Why don't we?

Because we may not know how

Because we may have a priority problem

Psa 55:17_I complain and groan morning, noon, and night,
and he hears my voice.

*If the devil can't make you bad, he'll
make you busy. -Anonymous*

I Thess 5:17 pray constantly,

Charles Spurgeon "I always feel it well just to put a few words of prayer
between everything I do."

Because we may not see prayer as part of a relational duty

**Don't ever hesitate to take to [God] whatever is on your
heart. He already knows it anyway, but He doesn't want
you to bear its pain or celebrate its joy alone.**

Billy Graham

Because God already knows what we need

Matt 6:8 ⁸ Don't be like them, because your Father knows the things you need before you ask him.

Matt 6:9 "Therefore, you should pray like this:

Our Father in heaven,
your name be honored as holy.

Because we have not had our previous prayers answered.

James 4: You ask and don't receive because you ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend it on your pleasures.

James 1:-⁶ But let him ask in faith without doubting.^(b) For the doubter is like the surging sea, driven and tossed by the wind. ⁷ That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord

II. Why pray?

Because we don't drive on a straight road
(there are turns and stops)
(it helps us make good choices)

James 1:5 If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.

Because we are not superman and wonder woman
(it helps us get strength)

II Cor 12:7 or because of these surpassingly great revelations. Therefore, in order to keep me from becoming conceited, I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me.

Because we are surrounded by "them"
(it helps us help others)

James 5:16 Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

Because we have a hater

(it helps us combat “old slick”)

Ephesians 6:18 And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord’s people.

Because we all goof up

(it helps keeps us “clean”)

1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Because we tend to be worry

Phil 4:6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

Close:

“Lord, teach us to pray.”