

Start Praying!

“Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also **obtained access** by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God.”

Romans 5:1-2 (Emphasis mine)

“Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a great high priest over the house of God, let us **draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith**, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.”

Hebrews 10:19-23 (Emphasis mine)

Main Idea: Prayer is Communion with God, and it is Essential to the Christian Life

I. Personal Prayer at Decided Times and in Specific Places

Daniel: “When Daniel knew that the document had been signed, he went to his house where he had windows in his upper chamber open toward Jerusalem. He got down on his knees three times a day and prayed and gave thanks before his God, **as he had done previously.**” **Daniel 6:10 (Emphasis mine)**

Paul: “I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers.” **Ephesians 1:16**

Jesus: “Now Jesus was **praying in a certain place**, and when he finished, one of his disciples said to him, ‘Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.’ And he said to them, ‘When you pray, say: ‘Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation.’”

Luke 11:1-4 (Emphasis mine)

“Prayer is that abiding relationship where believers stay at the master’s feet.”

Tony Evans

Practical Guide to Personal Prayer Times:

- **A**doration
- **C**onfession
- **T**hanksgiving
- **S**upplication

II. Ceaseless Prayer in Constant Fellowship with God

“Rejoice always, **pray without ceasing**, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” **1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 (Emphasis mine)**

“Genuine prayer is never ‘good works,’ an exercise or a pious attitude, but it is always **the prayer of a child to a Father**... The right way to approach God is to

stretch out our hands and ask of the One who we know has the heart of a Father.”

Dietrich Bonhoeffer (Emphasis Mine)

“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.” **Matthew 6:7-8**

“And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, ‘Abba! Father!’ So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.” **Galatians 4:6-7**

III. Corporate Prayer with Fellow Believers Together

“Consecrate a fast; call a solemn assembly. Gather the elders and all the inhabitants of the land to the house of the LORD your God, and cry out to the LORD.” **Joel 1:14**

“And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.” **Acts 2:42**

“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.’” **Matthew 6:9-13**

It’s Good to Be Saved! How do you get Saved?

“For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” **Romans 6:23**

I’m Saved! Now What?

- **Get Baptized**
- **Join a Local Church**
- **Start Praying**
- **Get in the Bible**
- **Share the Gospel**

“For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.” **Ephesians 2:8-10 // A.C.T.S.**

Sources and Further Reading Opportunities:

- *The Wiersbe Bible Commentary* – Warren Wiersbe (2007)
- *Word Pictures in the New Testament* – A.T. Robertson (1933)
- *Swindoll’s Ultimate Book of Illustrations & Quotes* – Charles R. Swindoll (1998)
- *Tony Evans Book of Illustrations* – Tony Evans (2009)
- *Evangelical Dictionary of Theology* – Walter A. Elwell (2001)
- *A Theology for the Church, Revised Edition* – Daniel L. Akin (2014)
- *The 5 Different Types of Prayer* – GotQuestions.org
- *The Cost of Discipleship* – Dietrich Bonhoeffer (1937)
- *Hearing God: Developing a Conversational Relationship with God* – Willard (1984)
- *How to Pray: The Beginners Guide* – Ross McCall (CRU.org)

