

Prayer

Tips for Prayer

Questions

- What is Prayer?
- What is the place of Corporate Prayer?
- Who should pray during Corporate Prayer?

A.C.T.S

- Adoration: Rendering to God the honor, respect, glory, and love due His holy majesty in light of how worthy he is
- Confession: Affirming and Agreeing with God's perspective and revelation
- Thanksgiving: Response of gratitude for God's person and His works, as we observe/consider/remember how God has intersected with and ruled over our lives and the lives of others.
- Supplication: Making requests of God, that align themselves to His nature, character, word, and will, in recognition of His ability to meet what we require.

Tips For Successful Prayer

- Times of Prayer
- Tips for Prayer
- Primers for Prayer

Times to Pray (of the day)

- Morning (Ps. 5:3; Mk. 1:35)
- Night (Ps. 42:8)
- Midnight (Ps. 119:62)
- ALL Night (Ps. 119:148; Lk. 6:12)
- Before Dawn (Ps. 119:147)

Times to Pray (how often)

- Three times a day (Dan. 6:10)
- Seven times a day (Ps. 119:164)

Times to Pray (how long)

- Long prayers (1 Kings 8; Lk. 6:12)
- Short Prayers (Matt. 14:20; Lk. 23:42)

Pray without Ceasing

- 1 Thess. 5:17
 - Don't stop praying
 - Be ready to preach, pray, or die at a moments notice
- Col. 4:2-4
 - "Devote" (προσκαρτερέω) = to offer/grant/present/make happen
 - Manner: alertness/watchfulness and thanksgiving
 - Content: Opportunity, Ability, Clarity of gospel preaching

Tips for Prayer (Alone)

- Plan to pray (not "meditate" or read)
- Plan to pray (set aside a time free of distractions)
- Plan to pray (if distracted, come back to it)
- Pray to pray (seeking God-given ability to pray)
- Pray in Humility
- Pray Directly
- Pray in His Will (or ask to be conformed to His mindset)

Tips for Prayer (With Others)

- All the above
- Pray Audibly (others need to hear)
- Pray WITH others (not a time to zone out)
- Pray honestly (don't fluff your prayers with theology)
- Pray. Don't Preach.

Primers for Prayer

- Scripture

- God's own words (2 Tim. 3:16)

- Source of illumination (Ps. 119:105)

- The Spirit's tool (Eph. 6; Rom. 10; Heb. 4)

- Christian Writings

Scripture as a Primer

- How else will we know what God's will is?
- Examples:
 - 1 Kings 8 - Adoration, Confession, Supplication
 - Dan. 9:1-19 - Confession of Sin
 - Lk. 1:46-55 - Confession of YHWH's grace and might
 - Acts 4:24-30 - Confession of YHWH's truthfulness/
Supplication for YHWH's truth to abound

Christian Writings

- Treat these works the same way you would treat the prayers of your brothers. Where they are in need of a deeper theology, graciously ignore/correct. Where they affirm truth, pray along with a hearty "AMEN!"
- Examples:
 - "The Valley of Vision"
 - "A Method of Prayer"

Third Day Evening: Before Sleep

God of all sovereignty, Thy greatness is unsearchable, Thy name most excellent, Thy glory above the heavens; Ten thousand minister to thee, Ten thousand times ten thousand stand before thee; In thy awful presence we are less than nothing.

We do not approach thee because we desire thy notice, for we are sinners; our necessities compel us, thy promises encourage us, our broken hearts incite us, the Mediator draws us, thy acceptance of others moves us.

Look though upon us and be merciful unto us; convince us of the penalty and pollution of sin; give us faith to believe, and, believing to have life in Jesus; may we enter into his sufferings; let us see thy hand in the instruments of our grief; rejoicing that they are from thy over-ruling providence.

Let not our weeping hinder sowing; nor sorrow, duty.

While living in a world of change let us seek the abiding city. Be with us to our journey's end that we may glorify thee in death as in life.

We bless thee for preservation, supplies, mercies, and to thee, keeper of souls, we commit all we are and have.

May no evil befall us, no sickness come nigh us, no horror disturb us!

May our conscience be clear, our hearts pure, our sleep sweet!

And with innumerable company who neither slumber nor rest we join in ascribing blessing, honor, glory and power to the Lamb upon the throne, for ever and ever.

Psalm 105

- A Call to Worship (vv. 1-4)
- A Call to Remember (vv. 5-45)
 - Remember YHWH's Promise (vv. 5-24)
 - Remember YHWH's Redemption (vv. 25-42)
 - Remember YHWH's Promises Kept (vv. 43-45)