

Series: Lord, Teach Us to Pray (02)
Title: How to Pray in Gratitude and Faith

Scripture: 2 Chronicles 20

2025 Summer Scripture: Romans Road (ESV) 1:20; 3:23; 6:23; 5:8; 10:9-10; 8:37-39

- Praying in gratitude is thanking God for who He is and what He has done.
- Praying in faith is thanking God in advance for what He will do.

How we Pray in Gratitude & in Faith:

- 1. Seek the LORD in earnest and concerted prayer. (2 Chronicles 20:3-4)
- 2. Focus on God, not your problem. (2 Chronicles 20:5-9)
 - a. Praise God for His unlimited power (His name is power).
 - b. Praise God for the great things He has done.
- 3. Tell God you are powerless and He is powerful. (2 Chronicles 20:10-12)
 - i. Be still and know that God is God.
 - ii. "Lord, we do not know what to do, but our eyes are on you."
- 4. Listen to what God says (in His Word). (2 Chronicles 20:13-17)
 - i. "Do not be afraid and do not stress."
 - ii. "The battle is mine and I can handle it."
 - iii. "Stand firm in your faith and keep (or start) serving."
 - iv. "Keep walking, waiting, and watching Me work. I am with you."
- 5. Worship (particularly strong singing) as your response to God speaking. (2 Chronicles 20:18-19)
 - a. Spontaneous & planned worship is prescribed by the LORD. (1 Chronicles 6:31-33)
- 6. Thank God in advance for His answer (believing God will act). (2 Chronicles 20:20-21)



- 7. Praying in faith turns into praising by faith expecting God to turn battles into blessings (this is His nature, it is what God does). (2 Chronicles 20:22-28)
 - a. Spiritual warfare is carried out in worship.
 - i. We are created to sing.
 - ii. We are commanded to sing.
 - iii. We are compelled to sing.
 - iv. We should sing when we are afraid.
 - v. We should sing when we face opposition.
 - vi. We should sing when we are overwhelmed with worship.
 - vii. God has appointed the singing of spiritual songs as an effective weapon against Satan.

Dick Eastman's book, <u>The Hour That Changes the World</u>, gives a plan for personal prayer. He records the words of Mary Slosser who worked in China for many years. She used to say, "I sing the Doxology and dismiss the devil." And Amy Carmichael said, "I believe truly that Satan cannot endure it and so slips out of the room — more or less — when there is a true song."

Praying in Gratitude and Faith Comes with Wonders and Warnings:

- 1) The Holy Spirit moves and the Gospel is proclaimed. (2 Chronicles 20:29-30)
 - a) God adds to the number those who are being saved.
- 2) We must not hold back anything from the Lord. God wants every part of our lives. (2 Chronicles 20:31-34)
- 3) We must keep praying in gratitude and faith. We lose the favor of God when we become self-sufficient and depend on the world's power, influence and authority.(2 Chronicles 20:35-37)

inviting

others

