

Prayer Guide

This is a basic prayer guide to aid you in your praying. I would encourage you that the only way to learn to pray effectively is to just pray. The Holy Spirit is the greatest teacher and the word instructs us that he is with us to teach us to pray as we ought. Also remember to spend time praying in tongues. The Apostle Paul said that I pray with my understanding and I pray in tongues (1 Cor. 14:14-15). How do I know when to do which? When you have utterance or inspiration or understanding you pray with your understanding when you don't you pray in tongues. However, this is not to diminish the purpose of praying in tongues. When we pray in tongues the Holy Spirit causes us to pray out the mysteries that are hidden in the heart of God (1 Cor. 2:7-14).

*Prayer is not a formula. It has nothing to do with steps. It has everything to do with a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, and to the depth that your personal relationship with Jesus Christ runs. To that depth and into those heights will you ascend in prayer – alone.

*According to Andrew Murray the marks of an intercessor are: “An overwhelming sense of the need of those who are without Christ, a Christ-like love and compassion for souls, an awareness of our own personal inadequacy, strong faith in the power of prayer, courage to persevere in spite of seemingly stubborn spiritual refusal, the assurance of the answered prayer.”

*There are those that God calls and then anoints with the Spirit of Prayer to enter into the conflict over the destinies of souls. There are those that God will so mightily fill with his heart that they will lay hold of man and lay hold of God until the two come together.

If the church would only awaken to her responsibilities of intercession, we could well evangelize the world in a short time. It is not God's plan that the world be merely evangelized ultimately. It would be evangelized in every generation. There should be a constant gospel witness in every corner of the world so that no sinner need close his eyes in death without hearing the gospel, the good news of salvation through Christ. -- T.A. Hegre

*There is so much to learn about prayer, and you recognize how little you know about prayer – how little we all know about prayer. There's so much to be learned about prayer outside of the narrow sphere in which you may have knowledge of; and it's outside of that narrow sphere that growth really takes place.

*The first thing that you need to understand is that you don't know how to pray. We're learning and we are in that process of learning; and understanding this fact is the first step to being able to learn. Everybody knows you can't teach a know-it-all anything. So our goal has to be-- “God teach me how to pray.”

Matt 6:5-13

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 men. I tell you the truth; they have received their reward in full.

6 But 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.

7 And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words.

8 Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

9 "This, then, is how you should pray: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,

*Surely all prayer must be founded upon the relationship of a father and a son. Such a prayer will always be heard and always answered. Surely any prayer not founded upon this foundation would always fail.

10 your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

11 Give us today our daily bread.

12 Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

13 *And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen*

*In this prayer we are told that our praying is to be before God and not to be seen of men. Our goal must be his presence and our desire to have his eyes, his voice, his ears, his fellowship.

*Give us this day our daily bread. This cry is not for the preparation of our meals, it's not for bread or biscuits. It is for what Jesus identified as the substance of our sustenance. In his own words he says; "Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God."

*In other words, man does not live on pancakes but rather he needs a word from the Lord to sustain him. This word is not just any word but a rhema word, a revelation word, a Spirit word, a received word from the mouth of God

*Jesus did not have a distant and cold view of prayer, as some Christians have. As if prayer was designed for nothing else but to express petitions for benefits needed, promised, expected. Prayer is the person yearning after his God and Creator. Prayer caused Christ to yearn for his Father's face. To seek fresh assurances of safety under His wing, fresh inspirations of His love, fresh nobility from the consciousness of his nearness to Him. In prayer believers draw near to God, not merely when necessity drives them, but because they want to draw near to God. We like to breathe the air of His presence; we love to come to Him, though it were for nothing but to cry, in the spirit of adoption, "Abba, Father." "Walking in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship One with the other-He with us and we with Him"-uplifting, invigorating, transfiguring fellowship. (from Jamieson, Fausset, and Brown Commentary, Electronic Database. Copyright (c) 1997 by BibleSoft).

We come as Jesus did. We come in his name. He instructed us to come in his name. He outlined how we were to come and made it very clear.

John 14:13

And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father.

John 14:14

You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

John 15:7

If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you.

John 15:16

You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit-- fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name.

John 16:23

In that day you will no longer ask me anything. I tell you the truth; my Father will give you whatever you ask in my name.

John 16:24

Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete.

John 16:26

In that day you will ask in my name. I am not saying that I will ask the Father on your behalf.

The greatest, most important thing a man can do is to pray. For we can accomplish far more by our prayers than by our work. Prayer is omnipotent; it can do anything that God can do! When we pray God works. All fruitfulness in service is the outcome of prayer, of the worker's prayers, or of those who are holding up holy hands on his behalf. -- The Kneeling Christian

He tells us that our strength and our fruitfulness depend upon our prayers. He reminds us that our joy depends upon answered prayer. And yet we allow the devil to persuade us to neglect prayer! He makes us believe that we can do more by our own efforts than by our prayers, more by our exchanges with men than by our intercession with God. How dare we work for Christ without being much on our knees?" -- The Kneeling Christian

"We must remember that the goal of prayer is the ear of God." "Unless that is gained, the prayer has utterly failed. The uttering of it may have kindled devotional feelings in our minds, the hearing of it may have comforted and strengthened the hearts of those with whom we have prayed, but if the prayer has not gained the heart of God it has failed in its essential purpose." -- Charles Spurgeon

*Set your mind on the Word of God. Begin to meditate the Word of God. We should endeavor to pray scripture. It's always to start out in a scripture. Pray in the spirit until a scripture unction comes, then use that scripture as a catalyst to launch you into the presence of God.

* Many times I will take a scripture and pray that the Lord will give me an understanding of it. In my heart I will launch from that scripture and I will begin almost to amplify that scripture in my spirit as I pray. I have a prayer book with scriptures categorized by subject, and many times I will use that. When the Spirit of the Lord begins to lead me in a direction many times I'll open to that category within this prayer book, and I'll begin to pray those scriptures, and that will lead me into the presence of God.

*When praying for the nations I like to use this scripture as a launching point.

Ps 2:8

Ask of me, and I will make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the earth your possession.

*He says, "Ask of Me." Is there anything that is accomplished in the kingdom of God without having "asked of Him."

*You understand that God works on more than one dimension, and your prayers are so important! We must pray the plans and purposes of God! They must be uttered, and for that reason God is big enough to lead the pray-ers to pray them.

*We must ask of Him. He goes on to say, "I will make the nations your inheritance; the ends of the earth your possessions." So as we pray for the nations, we pray from a position of authority

Neh 9:22

"You gave them kingdoms and nations, allotting to them even the remotest frontiers...."

Isa. 54:3

For you will spread out to the right and to the left; your descendants will dispossess nations and settle in their desolate cities.

Isa. 55:4-5

See, I have made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander of the peoples.

Surely you will summon nations you know not, and nations that do not know you will hasten to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has endowed you with splendor."