

January 30th & 31st, 2010

10 Basic Steps – Wk #5

The Why, When and How of Prayer

Matthew 6:5 -15 (Pages 684-685)

Prayer is the most important activity of our lives. Effective prayer cannot be reduced to a magic formula. God does not respond to our requests because we have the right ritual. He is more interested in our heart than our words.

A. Prayer is "to your " _____."
Matt. 6:9 "Abba" or "Daddy". He is not like earthly fathers.

B. Prayer is through the " _____."
Eph. 2:18. John 15:16

C. Prayer is prayer "by the _____." Eph. 2:18
We find it hard to pray, but God has not left us alone. Look at Romans 8:26-28.

Does God answer prayer? _____
Are there things that influence how our prayers are answered or not answered the way we want? _____
_____. Isa. 59:1-2. Psalm 139:23-24. Psalm 51.

_____ James 4:2-3.

_____ 1 Peter 3:7

_____ Matthew 7:11.

God wants what's best for us.

The answer to your prayer may be _____, or _____,
or _____.

Many times promises in the Bible are qualified. 1 John 5:14. That is why it is so important that we work on our relationship with the Father.

I. Why Should We Pray?

- A. It is the way that we develop our relationship with God.
- B. Jesus prayed and taught us to do the same. Mark 1:35. Luke 6:12. He assumed His disciples would pray in Matthew 6:7.
- C. God works through prayer.
- D. Prayer changes us and our Situations. Matthew 7:7-8.

II. When Should We Pray?

1 Thessalonians 5:17. Ephesians 6:18.
It is ongoing.
However, you do need special set aside time just for talking and fellowship. Matthew 6:6. Mark 1:35. I find it helpful to begin my day with prayer and my SOAP Bible study. Psalm 5:1-3. It is good to have a regular pattern. It is good to pray with others. Matthew 18:19.

III. How Should We Pray?

Remember it is a relationship that we are working on
A - Adoring. C - Confessing. T- Thanking. S - Seeking. Jesus even gave us a pattern in the New Testament.
Jesus also gave us the **Model Prayer** that we call the Lord's Prayer in the Gospels or Our Father.. Matthew 6:9-13

1. Our Father.
2. Holy is Your Name.
3. Your Rule Come In My Life.
4. Give us Our Daily Needs.
5. Forgive Us Our Sins, As We Forgive
6. Lead Us in the Right Way.
7. I Will Praise You Forever.

**Satan laughs at our words.
Mocks at our toil.
But trembles when we pray!**