

PRAYER

LESSON ONE

THOMAS J. SEAY, JR.
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WHAT IS PRAYER?

I. PRAYER DEFINED-

1. Prayer is "the expression of a felt need."
2. Prayer is "communion with God."
3. Prayer is going to the "throne of grace" for help--
(Hebrews 4:14-16)
4. Prayer is the lifting up of the soul to God for help and strength.
5. Prayer is the expression of our need for spiritual blessings.
6. What is your definition of prayer?

II. OF WHAT DOES PRAYER CONSIST?

1. Praise to God--Psm. 8:1,9; 18:3; 19:1; 104:24
2. Eulogy to God--Psm. 103:1-2; 22; 104:1,35; IICor. 1:3; Eph. 1:3; IPeter 1:3.
3. Trust in God--Psm. 7:1; 11:1; 25:1-2; 56:3-4,11; 71:1; Proverbs 3:5-6.
4. Thanksgiving to God--Philippians 4:6; Eph. 5:20; IThess. 5:18; Matthew 11:25.
5. Supplications--ITimothy 2:1-2; Luke 11:1-5; Acts 1:14; Eph. 6:18; Phil. 4:6; ITimothy 5:5; Heb. 5:5; Daniel 9:3; IKings 8:38..
6. Intercession--ITimothy 2:1-2; IICor. 1:11; James 5:16; Romans 8:26-27; 11:2.
7. Petition--James 4:3-4; Matthew 7:7; Luke 11:9-10; Matthew 6:11....
8. Remonstrance--Psm. 2:1; 10:1; 13:1-2; 22:1; 60:1; 74:1; 79:1-5; Jeremiah 20:7...
9. Contrition--Psm. 34:17-19; 51:17; Isaiah 57:15; 66:2.
10. Confession--Psm. 51:3; 32:5; 38:18; IJno. 1:9; Jas. 5:16; Lk. 18:13
11. Submission--Luke 22:42; Acts 21:14.
12. Vowing--Psm. 51:12-17; Gen. 28:20-22; Ecc. 5:4.

LESSON TWO

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CHRIST A MAN OF PRAYER

I. CHRIST'S EXAMPLE OF PRAYER-

1. Christ was a man of unceasing prayer. This was the secret of His spiritual power. If we are to follow Him, we must learn to pray as He did. We cannot be true Christians without this.
2. Christ often prayed in secret--
 - a. ^{1MK.6:46} Matthew 14:23-He went into a mountain apart to pray.
 - b. Mark 1:35- He prayed in solitary places.
 - c. Luke 5:16 - He withdrew into the wilderness to pray.
3. Many of Christ's greatest experiences were preceded by prayer
 - a. Luke 3:21 --Jesus prayed at His baptism.
 - b. Luke 6:12 --The selection of the twelve was preceded by a whole night of prayer.
 - c. Luke 9:18 --The promise to build the church was preceded by prayer. Mt. 16:13-19.
 - d. Luke 9:28-29- His transfiguration was preceded by prayer.
 - e. Luke 11:1-4--The Model Prayer was given after the disciples heard Jesus pray.
 - f. John 11:41-42-The raising of Lazarus was preceded by prayer.
 - g. John 17:1-26-His gethsemane experience was preceded by prayer.
 - h. Luke 22:39-45-The cross was preceded by prayer.
 - i. Luke 23:34,46-Christ endured the cross with the help of prayer.
4. Christ Often Prayed For Others--
 - a. Luke 22:31-32 --He prayed for Peter to stand firm.
 - b. John 17:9-19 --He prayed for the twelve apostles.
 - c. John 17:20-26 --He prayed for all believers in all ages.

II. CHRIST'S TEACHING ON PRAYER

1. Luke 11:1-4; Matt. 6:9-13-The Model prayer was given to teach us how to pray/..
2. Luke 11:5-13; 18:1-8 -Two parables given to teach importunity in prayer.
3. Luke 18:9-14 -Parable given to teach humility in prayer.
4. Matthew 5:44; Luke 6:28 -Christ taught us to pray for our enemies.
5. Matthew 26:41 -We are resist temptation by prayer.
6. Matthew 6:5-8 -Christ taught sincerity in prayer.
7. Mark 11:24 -He taught us to have faith when we pray...
8. Mark 13:33 -We are to prepare for His coming by P:

7. Lk. 18:1
*increasing and
persistent prayer.*

LESSON THREE
THE POWER OF PRAYER

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I. PRAYER HAS THE POWER

1. To give spiritual power(strength)-Eph. 3:15-16.
2. To bring the forgiveness of sins-Mt.6:12;Lk.18:13-14.
3. To give peace of mind -Phil.4:6-7; John 14:27
4. To give recovery of health-James 5:13-16.
5. To bring God close to us-James 4:7-8.
6. To delivery us from worry-Phil.4:6-7;IPeter 5:7
7. To fortify us against temptation-Matt.6:13;26:41;Lk.21:36.
8. To give wisdom and spiritual understanding-Eph.1:15-19;
col. 1:9-11.
9. "More things are wrought by prayer, Than man e'er heard of."

II. BIBLICAL EXAMPLES OF THE GREAT POWER OF PRAYER

1. Prayer brought Isaac and Rebekah children-Gen.25:20-26.
2. Prayer brought forgiveness for Israel-Exodus 32:30-32.
3. Prayer caused the sun to stand still-Joshua 10:12-14.
4. Prayer enabled Samson to pull down the temple-Judges 5:17-~~18~~.
5. Prayer brought Hannah a child-ISamuel 1:9-15,27-28.
6. Prayer brought Solomon wisdom and riches-IKings 3:5-15.
7. Prayer caused both drought and rain-IKings 17:1;Jas.5:17-18.
8. Prayer spared the life of king Hezekiah-Isa.38:1-5.
9. Prayer caused Jonah's deliverance from whale-Jonah 2:1-9.
- 10 . Prayer brought immediate help to Jesus-John 11:41-44;12:28;
Luke 22:43.....
11. Prayer brought courage to the Jerusalem church-Acts 4:23-32.
12. Prayer brought a preacher to Cornelius- Acts 10:1-8;31-32.

PRAYER

LESSON FOUR

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THE MODEL PRAYER

Introduction:

1. Upon seeing Jesus pray, the disciples said, "Lord, teach us to pray." Luke 11:1-4. This was the occasion for the prayer.
2. Jesus gave this prayer to teach us how to pray. Mt. 6:9-13. It is our model. In it we have the essential elements of prayer.
3. This prayer is divided into two parts:

I. PRAYER FOR GOD'S GLORY AND HONOR

1. A recognition of God as our Father-
 - a. "Our Father." God must be a Father to us if prayer is to be vital.
 - b. Can an alien pray this prayer? John 8:44
2. For the glory of God's name-
 - a. "Hallowed be Thy name"
 - b. We must revere God's name and desire that it be exalted.
3. For the extension of God's kingdom-
 - a. "Thy kingdom come". What did this mean then? What does it mean now? Can Christians pray this now? If not why not?
 - b. If we pray for God's kingdom what does this obligate us to do?
4. For the prevalence of God's will-
 - a. "Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven".
 - b. Can we pray this without endeavouring to bring our will into harmony with God's will?
 - c. If prayer is to be effective, we must desire that God's will, not ours, constantly prevail in our lives.

II. PRAYER FOR OUR DAILY NEEDS

1. Petition for material needs-
 - a. Give us this day our daily bread."
 - b. What does this include? For what material blessings can we pray?
 - c. If we pray for daily bread, what does this obligate us to do?
 - d. Why work for daily bread (I Thess. 3:10) if God gives it?
2. Petition for spiritual needs-
 - a. Forgiveness for the past. "Forgive us our debts".
 - b. Help for the present - "Lead us not into temptation".
 - c. Deliverance for the future - "Deliver us from evil".
 - d. If we make these petitions, what are we obligated to do?

PRAYER

LESSON FIVE

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WHOSE PRAYER WILL GOD HEAR?

Introduction:

1. Many prayers go unanswered. God will not hear them. (Job. 30:20); (Psalms 22:2). Why does He hear the prayers of some and not those of others? It is because we do not always pray in accordance with God's will. I John 5:14.

I. WHOSE PRAYER WILL GOD NOT HEAR?

1. Who reject God in their lives-Proverbs 1:24-30.
2. Those who refuse to hear God's Word-Proverbs 28:9; Zechariah 7:11-13.
3. Those who are proud- Job 35:12.
4. Those who are self-righteous and trust in themselves-Luke 18:9-14.
5. Those who regard iniquity in their heart-Psm. 66:18.
6. Those who are sinners-John 9:31
7. Those who ask for selfish purposes- James 4:3-4.
8. Those who refuse to help the poor-Proverbs 21:13.

II. WHOSE PRAYER WILL GOD HEAR?

1. Those who pray according to His will-I John 5:14-15.
2. Those who pray in faith-Matthew 21:22; Mark 11:24; James 1:6.
3. Those who keep His commandments-I John 3:22.
4. Those who worship Him and seek to do His will-John 9:31.
5. Those who are sincerely penitent-Luke 18:9-14; Psm. 51:1-4.
6. Those who are contrite and brokenhearted- Psm. 34:18; 51:17; Isaiah 66:2.
7. Those who are forgiving-Matthew 6:14-15
8. Those who are humble- Psm. 9:12; 10:17.
9. Those who are righteous-Psm. 34:17; IPeter 3:12; James 5:16.
10. Those who pray night and day-Luke 18:7.
11. Those who pray fervently and earnestly-James 5:16-17.
12. Those who seek the Lord-Psm. 34:4; Matthew 7:7-8.
13. Those who abide in Christ- John 15:7
14. Those who dwell in secret places with God-Psm. 91:1, 14-15.
15. Those who are needy and destitute-Psm. 69:33; 102:17; Isaiah 41:17.
16. Those who are suffering-James 5:13.
17. Those who are oppressed-James 5:4; Isaiah 19:20.
18. Those who are widows and orphans-Exodus 22:22-23.
19. Those who are sincerely seeking the truth-Acts 10:1-4, 24, 31-32; 11:14.

PRAYER

LESSON SIX

THE CONDITIONS OF PRAYER

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INTRODUCTION:

Many prayers are not answered because the scriptural conditions of prayer are not observed. If our prayers are to be acceptable to God, the following scriptural principles must be observed:

1. We must pray in faith. James 1:5-6; Matt. 21:22; Mark 11:24.
2. We must pray according to God's will-I John 5:14-15
3. We must pray in Jesus' name-John 14:6; 13-14; 15:16;
ITimothy 2:5.
4. We must pray unselfishly-James 4:3-4.
5. We must be obedient to God's will-I John 3:22; Proverbs 28:9; John 9:31.
6. We must forgive others-Matthew 6:14-15; 18:21-35.
7. We must pray fervently-James 5:16.
8. We must pray earnestly-James 5:17-18; Acts 12:5.
9. We must be steadfast in prayer. Romans 12:12; Col. 4:2.
10. We must use no vain repetitions-Matthew 6:7.
11. We must pray with humility-Luke 18:9-14.
12. We must pray with thanksgiving-Philippians 4:6; Col. 4:2.
13. We must pray with submission to God's will-Luke 22:42;
Matthew 6:9-10.
14. We must pray with persistence-Luke 11:1-8; 18:1-7.
15. We must join our prayers with others-Matthew 18:19-20;
Acts 4:23-29; 20:38.
16. We must pray secretly- Matthew 6:5-8.
17. We must pray in the Spirit-Ephesians 6:18-19; Jude 20.

PRAYER

LESSON SEVEN

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FOR WHOM SHOULD WE PRAY

I. For Ourselves-

1. IChronicles 4:10-"Bless me....."
2. Isaiah 38:15-Hezekiah prayed for his recovery from illness.
3. Luke 18:9-14-"be merciful to me a sinner."
4. IICorinthians 12:7-8- Paul prayed for the removal of his thorn in the flesh.
5. Hebrews 5:7; John 17:1-7-Christ prayed for Himself.

II. FOR ONE ANOTHER

1. James 5:16-"pray one for another"
2. ISamuel 12:22- We sin when we cease to pray for others.
3. Romans 1:9; ICor.1:4; IICor.1:11; Eph.1:15-16; 3:14-16; Col. 1:3, 9-11; IThess. 1:2; IIThess. 1:11; IITim.1:3; Philemon4; Hebrews 13:18.

III. FOR GOSPEL PREACHERS

1. Eph.6:18-19-Paul requested prayer for himself.
2. Colossians 4:3; IIThess. 3:1-2; Acts 13:1-3; Matthew 9:36-38.

IV. FOR THOSE WHOM WE HAVE CONVERTED

1. Christ prayed for His disciples-John 17:9-26
2. Paul prayed for the brethren he had converted-IThess. 1:9-13; Eph.1:15-16; Phil. 1:3-5; Col. 1:9-11.

V. FOR THE SICK

1. IISamuel 12:15-16-David prayed for his sick child.
2. Isaiah 38:1-5-King Hezekiah prayed for his own recovery from sickness.
3. James 5:13-16-We are to pray for God to raise up the sick.
4. IIIJohn 1-2 we are to pray for the good health of others.

VI. FOR OUR RULERS

ITim. 2:1-3

VII. FOR THE LOST

Romans 10:1-3

VIII. FOR OUR ENEMIES

Matt.5:44-46; Luke 6:28; 23-34; Acts 7:60; IITim.4:16-18 .

IX. FOR OUR CHILDREN

IChronicles 29:19; IISamuel 12:15-16..

X. FOR THE ELDERS OF THE CHURCH

Hebrews 13:7 Acts 20:36

PRAYER
LESSON EIGHT

FOR WHOM SHOULD WE PRAY?

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I. IN RELATIONSHIP TO GOD WE SHOULD PRAY FOR:

1. God's name to be hallowed-Matthew 6:9
2. God's kingdom to grow and increase-Matthew 6:10.
3. God's will to prevail- Matthew 6:10
4. God's work to be revived-Habakkuk 3:2

II. IN RELATION TO EVANGELISM WE SHOULD PRAY FOR:

1. More workers to enter the mission fields-Matt.9:36-38
2. More open doors for the gospel-Col.4:3;ICor.16:9.
3. Greater boldness and courage to preach-Acts 4:23-29; Eph. 6:19-20.
4. The success of the word-IIThess. 3:1-2.
5. The conversion of the lost-Romans 10:1-3.

III. IN RELATION TO SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS WE SHOULD PRAY FOR:

1. The forgiveness of our sins-Matt.6:12;Psm.25:11,18;51:1; Luke 18:13;Exodus 32:31-32;Acts 8:22.
2. Cleansing from sin-Psm.51:7,10.
3. Deliverance from sin-Matt. 6:13;Mark.14: 38;Psm.19:14.
4. God's guidance in all things-Psm.25:4-5; 27:11; 31:1; 86:11; 119:33; Psm. 139:23-24; 143:10.
5. An appreciation of God's word-Psm. 119:18.
6. Greater understanding- Psm.119:27,34,73,125,144,169; Proverbs 2:6;Col.1:9.
7. Wisdom-James 1:4-6;Eph. 1:15-19;IKings 3:5-15; Proverbs 2:6;Col.1:11.
8. Spiritual strength-Eph.3:15-16;Col.1:11.
9. Comunion with God-Psm.27:4...
10. Security-Psm.119:117;Jude 24.

IV. IN RELATION TO MATERIAL BLESSINGS WE SHOULD PRAY FOR

1. Our daily bread-Matt.6:11.
2. Health and prosperity-IIIJohn 1-2.
3. Restoration to health of the sick-James 5:14-16.
4. Safe journey in travel- Romans 1:9-10;Acts 18:21.
5. Anything that is according to God's will-Psm.27:4
6. For everything we need-Phil. 4:6,19.

V. IN RELATION TO THE HOME WE SHOULD PRAY FOR

1. Our parents-Exodus 20:12;Eph.6:2.
2. Our children-IISamuel 12:15-16
3. Give thanks at the table-Matthew 14:19;Acts 27:35

VI. IN RELATION TO THE CHURCH WE SHOULD PRAY FOR

1. Its leaders-Hebrews 13:7;IThess.5:12-13.
2. Its doctrinal soundness,purity,unity,growth,etc.
3. Its missionary program and those it supports in preaching.

PRAYER

LESSON NINE

OLD TESTAMENT EXAMPLES OF PRAYER

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I. ABRAHAM'S PRAYER FOR SODOM - GENESIS 18:23-33

1. The occasion for this prayer-18:16-22
2. The urgency of this prayer; Abraham pleads earnestly with God.

II. DAVID'S PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS- PSALMS 51:1-19

1. The occasion for this prayer-1Sam.11:1-5
2. David prays for pardon, cleansing- 51:1-11
3. David prays to be restored to God's favor-51:12
4. David's promise- 51:13-16.
5. David's attitude- 51:17

III. SOLOMON'S PRAYER AT THE DEDICATION OF THE TEMPLE-1KINGS 8:22-54

1. The occasion for this prayer-1Kings 8:1-21.
2. The central petition in this prayer.

IV. EZRA'S PRAYER FOR ISRAEL - EZRA 9:1-15.

1. The occasion for this prayer-9:1-4.
2. Ezra's confession of Israel's sins and his own identification with their guilt- 9:5-15
3. The effect of this prayer- 10:1-5.

V. HANNAH'S PRAYER FOR A CHILD- 1SAMUEL 1:1-28

1. The occasion for this prayer-1Sam.1:1-8
2. Hannah's persistency in prayer- 1Sam.1:10,12,15.
3. Hannah's vow to God-1Sam. 1:11.
4. God's answer to Hannah's prayer-1Sam. 1:17-20,27.
5. Hannah kept her vow-1Samuel. 1:26-28.

VI. DANIEL'S PRAYER IN BABYLON- DANIEL 6:1-28.

1. The occasion for this prayer- Daniel 6:1-10
2. The results of this prayer-Daniel 6:11-17.
3. God's deliverance of Daniel- Daniel 6:18-28.

VII. HEZEKIAH'S PRAYER FOR DELIVERANCE FROM THE ASSYRIANS-1KINGS 19:14-19...

1. The occasion for this prayer-1Kings 19:1-3.
2. Hezekiah's petition- 1KINGS 19:14-19
3. The results of this prayer-1Kings 19:20-37; 2Chron.32:20-23

PRAYER

LESSON TEN

NEW TESTAMENT EXAMPLES OF PRAYER THOMAS J. SEAY, JR.
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I. CHRIST'S PRAYER FOR UNITY-JOHN 17:1-26

1. The time, place and occasion for this prayer.
2. Christ prays for Himself-17:1-8
3. Christ prays for the apostles-17:9-19
4. Christ prays for all disciples in all ages-17:20-26.

II. THE PRAYER OF THE PHARISEE AND THE PUBLICAN- LUKE 18:9-14

1. The purpose of this prayer-18:9.
2. The Pharisee's prayer-18:10-12
3. The publican's prayer-18:13
4. The results of these prayers-18:14.

III. THE PRAYER OF THE JERUSALEM CHURCH-ACTS 4:23-30.

1. The occasion for this prayer-Acts 4:16-22.
2. Their petition-Acts 4:29.
3. The results of this prayer-Acts 4:31-37.

IV. PAUL PRAYER FOR THE EPHESIANS-

1. ^{First} ~~First~~ The ~~First~~ Prayer-Eph. 1:15-23
 - a. His interest for them-Eph. 1:15-16.
 - b. His petition for them-Eph. 1:17-23
2. The Second Prayer-Eph. 3:14-21
 - a. The occasion for this prayer-Eph. 3:14
 - b. His petition for them-Eph. 3:15-21

V. PAUL'S PRAYER FOR THE PHILIPPIANS- PHIL. 1:9-11

1. His interest in them- Phil. 1:3-8
2. His petition for them-Phil. 1:9-11.

VI. PAUL'S PRAYER FOR THE COLOSSIANS- COL. 1:9-11

1. His interest in them- Col. 1:3, 9.
2. His petition for them- Col. 1:9-11.