

PRAYER

Prayer is talking with God, a two way conversation opening up to Him, and listening to Him. You can pray anywhere at any time.

1. Elements of prayer -- We can use the acronym "CATS"
 - 1.1 **C**onfession -- **1 John 1:9; Ps 66:18; Prov 28:13**
 - 1.2 **A**doration/praise -- **Psalm 86:12; Heb 13:15**
 - 1.3 **T**hanksgiving -- **Eph 5:20; 1 Thess 5:18; Phil 4:6,7** □
 - 1.4 **S**upplication (asking):
 - A. For others - Intercession -- **Col 4:12; Eph 6:18-19** (Not praying for other Christians is a sin -- **1 Sam 12:23**)
 - B. For the Lord to send workers into His harvest field -- **Mt 9:37**
 - C. For ourselves - petition -- **Matt 6:11; 7:7,8.**

2. Why pray?
 - 2.1 God commands it -- **Luke 18:1-7; "Pray constantly"--1 Thess 5:17**
and we need it -- **Phil 4:6,7**
 - 2.2 Christ's example--**Mark 1:35**
"...went out to a lonely place, and there he prayed."
 - 2.3 Paul's example
"Always praying"--Col 1:3; 1 Thess 3:10
"Follow my example, just as I follow Christ's."--1 Cor 11:1
 - 2.4 Spiritual warfare. Through prayer we gain spiritual victory over principalities and powers--**Eph 6:12,13,18**
 - 2.5 To receive mercy and grace to help us -- **Heb 4:14-16**

3. What can hinder our prayers?
 - 3.1 Sin--**Isaiah 59:1,2**
 - 3.2 Doubt--**James 1:6; Mark 11:24**
 - 3.3 Our motives--**James 4:3;**
 - 3.4 Family relationships--**1 Peter 3:7**
 - 3.5 Unforgiveness--**Mark 11:25,26; Matt 6:15**
 - 3.6 Pride--**1 Peter 5:5**
 - 3.7 Spiritual powers, Satan--**Eph 6:12, Dan 10:2,12-14.**

- 4. How to discover the riches of prayer.
 - 4.1 Obey His commands and do what pleases to Him--**1 John 3:22**
 - 4.2 Ask according to the will of God--**1 John 5:14**
 - 4.3 Ask believing--**Matt 21:22**
 - 4.4 Keeping Jesus' words in our hearts--**John 15:7**
 - 4.5 Forgive--**Mark 11:25**
 - 4.6 Be humble--**1 Peter 5:5**
 - 4.7 Get priorities right--**Matt 6:33**
 - 4.8 Ask specifically--**Mark 10:51**

- 5. What are the results of prayer?
 - 5.1 Receive the Holy Spirit--**Luke 11:9,13**
 - 5.2 Peace--**Phil 4:6,7**
 - 5.3 Joy--**John 16:24**
 - 5.4 Loving care--**1 Peter 5:7**
 - 5.5 Wisdom--**James 1:5**
 - 5.6 Healing--**James 5:13-15**
 - 5.7 Growing in faith e.g. Abraham--**Gen 18:16-33**
 - 5.8 Revival--**2 Chron 7:14**

- 6. Collective or corporate prayer--**Acts 2:42; 4:31; Mt 18:19-20**

HOMEWORK: Memorize **Phil 4:6,7**
Make a daily prayer list and use it.
Begin reading the Psalms, as well as hymns and choruses, and
make a list of the various names and descriptions of
God for use in praise and prayer.

EXERCISE: Does God always answer our prayer "yes"? Check these
references so see how God answers prayer. Draw a line from
each reference to the best description of answered prayer:

- A. 1 John 5:14,15 1. Delayed answer "wait"
- B. 2 Cor 12:7-9 2. Different answer
- C. John 11:1-44 3. Definite answer "yes"
- D. Acts 3:1-10 4. Step by step answer
- E. Deut 7:22 5. Denied answer "no"

(Verification of responses is on the bottom of page 13.)