

How To Pray

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A Ministry Resource of PMC Ministries

How To Pray

“Talking to God in Your Everyday Walk”

In order to understand how one should pray we need to focus on whom we are praying to. His majesty and glory, and the immensity of all that He created is truly beyond our comprehension. For example, I have always enjoyed viewing the stars at night and being amazed at the vastness and the scope of the universe, and trying to grasp that the Creator is bigger than His creation is mind-boggling.

That same Creator knows when every bird falls from the sky, how many hairs are on one's head, every blade of grass, every raindrop and snowflake that falls, every move we make, every thought we think, and this could go on and on. He knows everything!

God sent His only son to us because He so loved the world. Jesus has been given endless power and full authority by His loving Father. Jesus, while on earth, turned water into wine, healed lepers, the blind, the lame, fed the multitudes, walked on water, raised the dead, and he, himself, rose on the third day providing us a place for salvation and eternal life. And one important thing to remember is that Jesus also promised never to leave or forsake us.

Jesus hears every word I utter to Him, both in my thoughts and in my prayers. It is very humbling to comprehend at times. He seeks you through His Spirit to talk with Him, to come to Him with your praise and thanks - as well as your difficulties and concerns. Simply talk to Him as a child would to a Father throughout the day. When a difficulty arises during the day seek His guidance. When something positive happens give thanks and praise too. Again, talk to Him. Do not only seek Him in challenging times but the good times as well. He is always there - always ready to listen but you must also be willing to listen to Him.

The best source and authority in knowing how to pray is Jesus himself.

Luke 11:1-13 (NIV) reads:

One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.”

He said unto them, When you pray, say -

“Father, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us. And lead us not into temptation.”

Then Jesus said to them, “Suppose you have a friend, and you go to him at midnight, and say, Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; a friend of mine on a journey has come to me, and I have no food to offer him?

And suppose the one inside answers, don’t bother me. The door is already locked, and my children and I are in bed. I can’t get up and give you anything.

I tell you, even though he will not get up and give you the bread because of friendship, yet because of your shameless audacity he will surely get up and give you as you need.

So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened.

For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

“Which of you fathers, if your son ask for a fish, will give him a snake instead? Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

Your prayers to God have to have a starting point - a spring board. He is listening and hearing every word. Remember, it is a child (no matter the age) speaking to their Father in Heaven.

Another example of Jesus being asked how to pray:

“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. This then, is how you should pray: Our Father in Heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our debts as we have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one”.

(Mathew: 6-6 9-14)

Express yourself humbly and from the bottom of your heart with love for your Father in Heaven. Ask and you shall receive, for God loves those who earnestly seek Him. It greatly pleases God to have us approach Him as His child - and our relationship will grow stronger and stronger and more intimate.

“Draw near to me and I will draw near to you”.

(James: 4:8)

Your time spent with God should be the absolutely most important event you do everyday. Nothing is more important, everything else can wait. You will develop a uniquely special time of love and fellowship with Him. As your relationship grows you will find yourself craving to spend more time with Him. Finally, never give up on your prayers, and remember that as an earthly Father he knows what is best for his child.

All things are possible through Him, with Him, and in Him. He is always there - just a prayer away!

Prayer:

Dear Jesus, Thank you for paying the price and bridging the gap that allows me to come directly to my Heavenly Father with my cares, concerns, praise and

thanksgiving. Please help me to draw close to you and to allow myself the joy of experiencing more of your presence. Allow your Spirit to work by opening my eyes to see, ears to hear, and heart to respond directly to you when the enemy attacks or life's challenges are pressing, or when you are asking me to use my gifts and talents for Your glory. May I pursue you in all seasons, Lord, and not just in want or need. May I experience the fullness of an intentional prayerful pursuit and relationship with you. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen!

Encouragement:

Some are distracted by wandering thoughts when praying. We suggest you try journaling your thoughts to God. How we pray is not as important that we *do* pray. God is not looking at the process, but the person! You matter to Him! Let Him care for you.