



God's Answers to Good Questions

Lesson 11 - Why Pray?

PREPARE

- Please read the following passages:
 - Genesis 18:22-33
 - 1 Kings 8:22-53
 - Daniel 2:20-23
 - Matthew 6:7-13
 - Luke 11:9-13
 - John 17
 - Ephesians 3:20-21
 - Philippians 4:4-7
- Watch the video lesson and complete the Study Guide while watching

STUDY GUIDE

I. Introduction

A. Very few people dispute the _____ of prayer

1. _____, when there's some natural catastrophe or some disaster, will say "sending thoughts and prayers"
2. Prayer is an _____ thing, and people know that

B. _____ was a man of prayer

1. If there was ever anyone in the history of the world that didn't need to pray, it was Jesus because He was _____ incarnate
2. Jesus is often going to His _____ in prayer, sometimes spending _____ in prayer

C. We know that prayer is valuable because Jesus' disciples came to Him for _____, and He gave them perhaps the most famous prayer in the Bible, what we call the "Lord's Prayer"

II. What Exactly Is Prayer?

A. Philippians 4:4-7 - *"Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice. Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand. Be careful for nothing; but in*

every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

B. Prayer is _____ to God

1. It is _____ to God and telling God things, giving Him _____
2. It is bringing things to Him and saying, "Lord, here it is. We know that You _____, but we are making these things known to You now."

C. Four different kinds of things we make known to God:

1. _____
2. _____
 - a. Supplication is presenting a _____ and an appeal
 - b. We're asking things of God that He would do or things that He would _____ or things that _____ to be addressed or things that need to be _____
3. _____
 - a. We make our thankfulness and our _____ known to God through prayer
 - b. Expressions of _____ are a way that we can say to God, "We recognize what You've done, we appreciate Your _____ to us, and we are expressing the gratitude of our _____ to You, oh Lord."
4. _____ - much like supplications, we're asking God to do things, to act on our behalf, to _____ in a situation

D. _____ - when we are dealing with sin in our life, we go to the Lord and confess our sins and ask for God's _____ or God's _____

1. 1 John 1:9 – *“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”*

2. God _____ us that when we confess our sins and seek His face, He is _____ and _____ to grant us forgiveness and cleanse us from all unrighteousness

E. We _____ ourselves upon God and His grace, and He _____ our hearts and our minds as we pray to Him

F. “God spoke to me in prayer”

1. God speaks to us through His _____; prayer isn't _____

2. Prayer is our speaking to God; it's _____ side of the conversation

III. How Should We Pray?

A. Matthew 6:7-13 – *“But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking. Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him. After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.”*

B. Our prayer is not to be full of _____ repetition

1. You are not just babbling _____ or saying _____

2. We are not to be simply repeating endless words in a meaningless, _____ fashion

3. Jesus said, “Don't pray like the _____. Pray like a Christian.”

C. Jesus provides a _____ in Matthew 6:7-13 ... this pattern should be used as a _____ and not simply as words to be repeated, especially in a mindless fashion

D. The Pattern for Prayer

1. FIRST PRIORITY - God's _____
 - a. We pray first _____ God, _____ God, and _____ God
 - b. God's kingdom, God's glory, God's honor is our _____ interest
2. FIRST PETITION - hallowed be your name (may your name be _____)
 - a. _____ is holy, and His _____ is holy - _____ connected with Him is holy
 - b. We're really praying that people would _____ God for who and what He actually is, and then He would be accorded that _____ and _____ which He deserves
3. SECOND PETITION - Your _____ come ... Your _____ be done on earth as it is in heaven
 - a. Your kingdom come - that your kingdom would be _____, that it would be _____, that it would be _____, and that it would _____
 - b. Your will be done - that Your Word would be _____ and _____, and that Your Law would be _____
 - c. On earth as it is in heaven - "Lord, we want Your Kingdom to be established on earth as _____ and _____ as it already exists in heaven, and we want Your will to be done here on Earth as _____ and _____ as it is obeyed by the angels in heaven."
4. THIRD PETITION - give us this day our daily _____
 - a. That's food for our _____ and food for our _____

- b. We're praying for God's _____ provision for us
5. FOURTH PETITION - _____ us our debts as we forgive our debtors
- a. "Lord, we have _____ against you, we have _____ against you, we need forgiveness."
 - b. We have to be about the business of _____ those who are indebted to us
6. FIFTH PETITION - _____ _____ _____ into temptation but deliver us from evil
- a. This is _____ from evil and from temptation
 - b. "Lord, we know we're _____ and frail ... we're easily tempted, we often give way ... give us the _____ and the _____ so that we do not fall into the hands of Satan."
 - c. "Lord, we pray that we do not _____ to the temptations Satan puts before us ... protect us from _____ because we _____ protect ourselves."
7. The closing of the Lord's Prayer is not in the _____ _____, but it's not an inappropriate addition - thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever

IV. Why Should We Pray?

- A. Luke 11:9-13 - *"And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent? Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?"*
- B. Because Jesus is _____ us and _____ us to pray

1. We do well to say, "Well, just because my Savior _____ me and encourages me to do it, I will do it."

2. This is the sweet _____, the sweet _____ of our loving Lord and Savior

C. Because He will provide what we _____

1. Jesus is promising that if you look, _____
_____ what you need

2. Your heavenly Father who is _____ will give you the
_____ things you ask, including the Holy Spirit

D. Because we are weak and _____, and we cannot fend for ourselves

V. What Will God Do in Response?

A. Ephesians 3:20-21 - *"Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen."*

B. God will do far more abundantly _____ all that we _____
or _____

1. We have rather _____ expectations - our requests are rather
_____ and we don't want to overextend

2. This is God's _____ and _____ to us - He looks at us
as _____ and _____ children who barely dare to ask
for the _____, and then He says, "I'm going to give you the
_____. I'm going to provide beyond your wildest dreams."

C. His answers are in line with His _____ to do all
that He pleases

D. He will do _____ for us, and He will _____ Himself in
answering our prayers

VI. For Further Study

A. Solomon - 1 Kings 8:22-33

B. Abraham - Genesis 19

C. Daniel - Daniel 2

D. Jesus - John 17