

**First Steps
Lesson 2
Prayer**

"Lord, teach us to pray..." Luke 11:1

"Prayer is not only calling on the Lord, it is also listening for a response"

I. How and why should we _____?

Five parts to prayer:

1. _____ - Praise His name and glorify Him.

Psalm 145:3 *"Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; and His greatness is unsearchable."*

2. _____ - Admitting sin.

1John 1:8-9 *"If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."*

3. _____ - Praise and thank Him for what He has done.

1Thessalonians 5:16-18 *"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."*

4. _____ - Asking humbly and earnestly.

Philippians 4:6-7 *"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."*

5. _____ - Praying for others.

James 5:16 *"Confess your sins one to another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much."*

II. _____ should we pray ?

1. Develop a _____ time.

Mark 1:35 "*Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where He prayed.*"

2. _____ yourself each morning by spending time in prayer.

Romans 12:12 "*...be faithful in prayer.*"

3. How can a person _____ on all occasions?

Ephesians 6:18 "*And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests.*"

4. It is possible to have a prayerful _____ at all times.

1Thessalonians 5:17 "*pray without ceasing.*"

III. What does _____ say about prayer?

1. Jesus set the _____ for prayer.

Matthew 14:23 "*And when He had sent the multitudes away, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray. Now when evening came, He was alone there.*"

2. Jesus taught the _____ of prayer.

Luke 18:1 "*Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart.*"

3. _____ tells us to pray.

Colossians 4:2 "*Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving.*"

4. God's awesome _____ to us.

2Chronicles 7:14 "*...if My people, who are called by My name, will humble themselves and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sins and will heal their land.*"

IV. What prayer is:

1. It is _____.
2. It is an opportunity to have _____ with God.
3. It is from the _____.
4. It is _____ with God.
5. It is directly seeking and submitting to God's _____.

V. What prayer is not:

1. It is not _____. It must be from the heart.
2. It is not _____ - _____. It is not just good therapy.
3. It is not a _____ by which we can get from God what we want.
4. It is not a _____ of righteousness.
5. It is not seeking our _____, but seeking God's.

VI. What can _____ our prayers?

1. _____ sin.

Psalm 66:18 "*If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me.*"

2. Lack of _____.

Matthew 21:22 "*If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer.*"

3. _____.

Matthew 6:14-15 "*For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their sins, your father will not forgive your sins.*"

4. _____ in our lives.

Exodus 20:3 "*You shall have no other gods before Me.*"

5. _____ for others.

1Peter 3:7 "*Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers.*"

Conclusion: Prayer is our approach to God, and we are to come "with confidence."

Hebrews 4:16 "*Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.*"