

The Lord's Prayer: When You Pray

Psalms 145:18 ♦ Matthew 6:5-8

"One must train the habit of faith. The first step is to recognize the fact that your moods change. The next is to make sure that, if you have once accepted Christianity, then some of its main doctrines shall be deliberately held before your mind for some time every day. That is why daily prayers and religious readings and churchgoing are necessary parts of the Christian life. We have to be continually reminded of what we believe. Neither this belief nor any other will automatically remain alive in the mind. It must be fed."
("Mere Christianity," C. S. Lewis)

What is Prayer?

When someone _____ us and we _____ them in return, we want to spend _____ with them, we want to _____ to them and we don't mind _____ them to do things for us. This is also and especially true when that Someone is _____.

"A teaching has arisen that sounds very _____, very pious and very _____. It says that prayer cannot be making _____ to God. How crude and _____ and magical that would be! *Instead*, prayer is adjusting ourselves to the way things are. Prayer does not change the world; it changes us. This kind of teaching may have a great appeal, but this is _____ the mind of _____ about prayer. God _____ us to make requests, says Jesus. God _____ for our prayers. There are things God will _____ say to us or give us or do through us _____ we pray. It is this childlike, confident _____ toward prayer that Jesus teaches in the _____ Prayer." ("A Christian Primer," Albert Curry Winn p. 23)

Who Should Pray?

"The LORD is _____ to _____ who call on Him in _____" (Ps 145:18).

"Do you need _____? Then I fear you do not know your _____. Have you no _____ to ask of God? Then may the Lord's _____ show you your misery! Prayer is the lisping of the believing _____, the shout of the fighting _____, the requiem of the dying _____. It is the breath, the watchword, the comfort, the strength, the honor of a _____. If you are a _____ of God, you will seek your _____ face." (Charles Spurgeon)

When Should We Pray?

By using the adverb "_____" three times in Matthew 6:5-7, Jesus _____ that those who _____ Him are going to be praying.

"Pray _____," wrote the Apostle Paul in 1 Thessalonians 5:17.

Where Should We Pray?

"When _____ pray, do _____ be like the hypocrites, who love to pray _____ in the synagogues and on the street corners to be _____ by _____. They have received their reward in _____" (Matthew 6:5).

"But when _____ pray, go into your _____, close the door and pray to your Father, who is _____. Then your Father, who sees what is done in _____, will reward you" (v. 6).

Why Should We Pray?

Prayer leads to _____ with God, which in turn leads us to _____ with God about what is best for us and those we love.

"If you, then, though you are _____, know how to give _____ gifts to your children, HOW MUCH MORE will your Father in _____ give _____ gifts to those who _____ Him!" (Matthew 7:11).

How Should We Pray?

"When you pray, do not keep on _____ like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their _____ words. Your Father _____ what you need _____ you ask Him. This, then, is _____ you should pray ... " (Matthew 6:7-9a)

Takeaways

What is prayer? _____ to God

Who should pray? _____

When should we pray? _____

Where should we pray? _____, as long as we're talking to _____

Why should we pray? Because God _____ us to and He _____

How should we pray? _____, honestly and _____

