

Prayer

References: Matthew 6:6-13; John 16:23; Acts 4:31; 7:59; Romans 8:15, 26-27; Colossians 4:12; 1Timothy 2:1, 8; Hebrews 10:19-22; 13:12, 15; James 1:6-7; 1 John 3:22

- A. The **Person** we pray to
 - a. God the Father : **Hebrews 13:15, John 16:23**
 - i. He knows (Matthew 6:8)
 - ii. He cares (Matthew 7:11)
 - iii. He is able (Matthew 6:13)
 - iv. He rewards (Matthew 6:6)
 - b. The Lord Jesus Christ (less common) : **Acts 7:59**

- B. The meaning and **purpose** of prayer
 - a. Prayer is communication with God
 - b. To express dependence : **1 Timothy 2:1**
 - i. Supplications, prayers, intercessions
 - c. To express thanksgiving : 1 Timothy 2:1

- C. The **privilege** of prayer : **Hebrews 10:19-22**

- D. The **power for** prayer
 - a. the prompting of the Holy Spirit : **Romans 8:26-27**
 - b. the authority of the Lord Jesus: **John 16:23**

- E. The **power of** prayer : **Acts 4:31**

- F. The **place** for prayer
 - a. in private: **Matthew 6:6**
 - b. in public: **1 Timothy 2:8**

- G. The **practice** of prayer
 - a. continually : Hebrews 13:15
 - b. fervently : **Colossians 4:12**
 - c. expectantly : **James 1:6-7** (Matthew 21:22)
 - d. in holiness : **1 John 3:22** (John 15:7)
 - e. not in ritual or empty form : **Matthew 6:7**
 - i. *Thee* and *Thou* may be used to express reverence, but are not required!
 - ii. In public, prayers should not be long and drawn out
 - iii. In private, you may pray all night long! (Luke 6:12)
 - f. Examples:
 - i. The pattern prayer: Matthew 6:9-13
 - ii. The priestly prayer: John 17
 - iii. Paul's prayers: Ephesians 1:15-23, etc.

- H. The **priority** for prayer
 - a. Daniel was willing to die for it (Daniel 6:10)