

**If the Disciples  
Asked, "Lord  
Teach us to Pray"  
Luke 11:1**

**How Much More should  
we ask,  
"Lord, teach us to pray?"**



**LESSON #1**  
**LORD TEACH US TO PRAY**  
**Luke 11:1**  
**GOD HEARS AND GOD ANSWERS PRAYER**  
**Psalms 34:17-18 - I John 5:14**

**I. The "Character" of Our Father Shows that He Delights in Answering Prayers.**

- A. Part of His Character is, He is, "thou that hearest prayer." (Psalms 65:2).
- B. He heard and answered prayers throughout the Old Testament.
1. Abraham - Prayed to deliver Lot (Genesis 18:23-32).
  2. Elijah - Prayed for the dead to be raised (I Kings 17:17-22).  
Prayed for fire to fall (I Kings 18:24 (37-38)).  
Prayed for rain (I Kings 18:41-42).
  3. Daniel - Prayed for deliverance from the lions (Daniel 6:10 / 16-22).
  4. Hebrew Children - Prayed from the fiery furnace (Daniel 3:16-18/24-26).

**They remembered what God had done!**

- C. God heard and answered prayer throughout the New Testament.
1. The Canaanite woman - Prayed for her Daughter - (Matthew 15:21-28).
  2. Italian centurion - Prayed for more light - (Acts 10:1-6).
  3. Dying thief - Prayed for salvation (Luke 23:39-43).
  4. Paul and Silas - Prayed to be freed (Acts 16:25-29).
  5. The Church - Prayed for Peter to be freed (Acts 12:5 - Verse 12).

**II. The "Attributes" of Our Father Shows that He is Able and Willing to Answer Our Prayers.**

- A. God is a "Living" God.
1. Idol "had ears to hear but could not hear" (I Kings 18:24).
  2. God has ears to hear and heard (I Kings 18:37).
- B. God has "Un-Limited" knowledge and power to answer any prayer.
1. Omniscient - All Knowing!
    - a. He is present in ALL times with ALL His children in ALL places.
    - b. He understands and speaks ALL languages.
    - c. He hears, understands, and answers ALL at the same time!
  2. Omnipotent - All-powerful!
    - a. God answers prayer for rain - He controls the weather.
    - b. God answers prayer stopping the sun - He controls the universe.
    - c. God answers prayer for the sick - He controls health.
    - d. God answers prayer to raise the dead - He controls life and death.
- C. The "Un-Limited Love" of Our Father for Us Gives Him the Desire to Answer our Prayers.
1. But, God's love for you and me is "infinite."  
(Limitless or endless as in space, impossible to measure or calculate.)  
One-Trillion miles - 37,871 years to count at "one per second."  
Hebrews 4:16 a. "Where sin abounded, grace did much more abound (Romans 5:20).

- b. For God "so" loved the world.... (John 3:16).
- c. "In that while we were yet sinners, Christ died...." (Romans 5:8).
- 2. In His "infinite" love - **He is willing to "freely give us all things"** (Romans 8:32).
  - a. "Call unto me and **I WILL ANSWER...**" (Jeremiah 33:3).
- 3. The Disciples asked, "Teach us to pray..."
  - a. God started with, "**Our father...**"
  - b. **WHAT would you do for your children if you had that knowledge and power?**
    - 1. Would you hold back anything that was good for them? (Psalms 84:11)
- 4. God **DELIGHTS** in **hearing** the prayers from His children! - **And answering.**

### III. The "Creation" of the Earth Shows that God Planned to Answer Prayers (Isaiah 65:24).

#### A. Psalms 65:9-13:

*Thou visitest the earth, and waterest it.  
 Thou greatly enrichest it with the river of God, which is full of water.  
 Thou preparest them corn, when thou hast so provided for it.  
 Thou waterest the ridges thereof abundantly.  
 Thou settlest the furrows thereof.  
 Thou makest it soft with showers.  
 Thou blessest the springing thereof.  
 Thou crownest the year with thy goodness; and thy paths drop fatness.  
 They drop upon the pastures of the wilderness: and the little hills rejoice on every side.  
 The pastures are clothed with flocks.  
 The valleys also are covered over with corn; they shout for joy, they also sing.*

#### B. God "anticipated" all our needs when He created the earth.

- 1. He waters the ground.
- 2. He gave pastures for the flocks.
- 3. He provided valleys covered with corn.

#### C. God "created" animals - and created food for them!

- 1. The God who "created" food - waters the plants.

*"He causeth the grass to grow for the cattle, and herb for the service of man: that he may bring forth food out of the earth; And wine that maketh glad the heart of man, and oil to make his face to shine, and bread which strengtheneth man's heart" (Psalms 104:14-15).*

*"The high hills are a refuge for the wild goats; and the rocks for the conies" (Verse 18).*

*"The young lions roar after their prey, and seek their meat from God" (Verse 21).*

**"...Before they call, I shall answer."**

- A. When man discovered there was a shortage of wood for fire to heat and to cook,
  - a. Man discovered that the earth is full of coal - 1679 AD - from creation.
- B. When man discovered there was a shortage of coal to heat and to cook,
  - a. Man discovered that the earth is full of Natural Gas - 1821 AD - from creation.

- C. When man invented a combustible engine,
  - a. Man discovered the earth had large lakes of petroleum - 1859 AD - from creation.
  - b. Petroleum produces gasoline. **In 2006, the world used 1.2 billion gallons a day!**
- D. When man needed iron for tools,
  - a. Man discovered that iron was already provided - 4000 BC - from creation.
- E. When man needed materials that would not rust and would not be heavy,
  - a. Man discovered God had a material called aluminum - 1825 AD - from creation.
- F. When man needed "light" for his home - 1872 AD,
  - a. Man discovered God had made electricity - from creation.
  - b. 1882 AD man discovered that electricity could be used to make a "light bulb."
- G. When God created the earth it proves that God "loves man" and desires to provide ([James 1:17](#)).

**IV. The "Bible" Teaches that God will Provide ALL our Needs ([Philippians 4:19](#))!**

- A. What is God's plan for providing our needs **and** the delights of our heart? ([Psalms 37:4](#))
- B. God said, "*Ye have not because you ask not*" ([James 4:2](#)).

**We will get to that subject in Lesson #4.**

## LORD TEACH US TO PRAY - LESSON #2

### REASONS WHY CHRISTIANS OUGHT TO PRAY

#### I Timothy 2:8

#### I. Because Our Father has Repeatedly Commanded us, as His children, to Pray.

- A. *"And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that **men ought always to pray**, and not to faint...; (Luke 18:1). (Proseuchomia) (Come face to face)*
1. Not "should pray," but "*men ought always to pray.*"
  2. "...to this end..." (Dei) Must never neglect...
  3. "...not to faint..." - Never grow weary. Never give up - even when answer is long.
- B. *"Be careful for nothing; but in **every thing** by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God." (Philippians 4:6)*
1. "... Let your request be made..." Pray and be specific! (Acts 12:5)
  2. "*Everything*" (Pas) - your supplies, your wants, family needs, troubles, trials,
  3. Everything relating to your spiritual condition.
- C. *"**Praying always with all prayer** and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with **all perseverance** and supplication for **all saints**; **And for me**, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel," (Ephesians 6:18-19)*
1. After listing all the armour, Paul closed with the admonition in **Verse 18!**
    - a. No matter how complete the armour, or
    - b. ...How skilled we are in matters of war...
    - c. ...No matter how courageous we may be...
    - d. ...Without prayer, **we shall surely suffer defeat!**
- E. *"**Pray without ceasing**" (I Thessalonians 5:17) (Acts 12:5).*
1. A "clear command" with no modification for context!
  2. Does "anyone" not understand what this verse says?
- F. *"I will therefore that men **pray everywhere**, lifting up holy hands..." (I Timothy 2:8).*
1. God is ALWAYS present with us (Hebrew 13:5).
  2. **How many of us would "ignore our father, mother, children, family or friend?"**
    - a. **While walking with them or being together with them in ANY situation???**
    - b. **Christians are "commanded" to pray ... (Come boldly...)**
      1. ALL prayers.
      2. ALL perseverance.
      3. ALL saints.
      4. AND for me. (Christians should pray for ALL in the ministry full time!)
- G. Prayer is the expressed **duty** of ALL Christians - Everywhere - At all times!
1. Not to pray is sin - It is "the sin of disobedience to God's command!"
  2. *"God forbid that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you:" (I Samuel 12:23)*

## II. Because Prayer is Our Father's Method for His Children to Receive Things from Him!

- A. The lost world today (2021) expects the government to provide for them.
  - 1. [James 4:2](#) "Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet **ye have not, because ye ask not.**"
  - 2. The verse implies "You try to get it by force!"
    - a. This is the cause of "world-wars."
- B. Our Father provides for His children in two different ways.
  - 1. Sometimes God provides through "human means."
    - a. Medicine and doctors (Luke was "the beloved physician" - ([Colossians. 4:14](#)).
    - b. Timothy was told, "*Use a little wine (grape juice) for thy stomach.*"
    - c. [II Corinthians 9:6](#) speaks of "sowing and reaping."
    - d. God, in some circumstances, expects "his people to do their part."
  - 2. Sometimes God provides through "humanly impossible means."
    - a. God healed without medicines or doctors.
    - b. King Hezekiah was healed ([Isaiah 38:21](#)).
    - c. God provided food when the people could not provide for themselves.
- C. If Our Father uses "human means" or sometimes, "means that are impossible" for man,
  - 1. It is still our Father who gives.
- D. Regardless: God's children are told to,  
*"Ask, and it shall be given you, seek and ye shall find, knock and it shall be opened unto you."* ([Luke 11:5-13](#))

## III. Because Prayer Is Our Father's Method for His Children to Have Joy.

- A. Our Father wants his children to be happy and full of Joy ([John 16:24](#)).
- (Go back to the "family setting.")
- B. You, as a father, want your children to be happy.
  - 1. You love your children enough to give them anything they need.
  - 2. You love your children enough to give them some things they do not need but want.
  - 3. You love your children enough not to give them things that would be harmful. ([Psalms 84:11](#))
    - a. You would make them understand why it would not be good for them.
- C. Our Father loves you and me in the same manner ([Psalms 37:4-5](#)).
  - 1. God answers prayer freely and adds no sorrow. ([Proverbs 10:22](#)).  
**...That leads us to our final point...!**

## IV. Because Prayer is Our Father's Method for Us to Get Rid of Things We Don't Want ([Phil. 4:6-7](#)).

- A. Prayer lets us get rid of trouble, worry, and anxiety!
  - 1. All three of these things come under "*Be careful for nothing!*"

- a. What do you and I not understand about that statement?
- B. Prayer assures us of “overcoming” temptation (Matthew 26:41).
  - 1. "Watch **and pray**, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."
  - 2. Repeated: Mark 14:38, Luke 22:40 & 46, Matthew 28:20.
- C. Prayer is Our Father's "Three-fold Remedy" to keep us from trouble, worry and anxiety.
  - 1. In EVERYTHING...
    - a. Pray
    - b. Supplications
    - c. With thanksgiving.
- D. Our Father is the God...
  - 1. Who is there when a sparrow falls (Matthew 10:29).
  - 2. Who clothed the lilies of the field (Matthew 6:25-34).
  - 3. Who numbers the hairs on His children's head (Matthew 10:30).
  - 4. Who sends sun and the rain (Matthew 5:45).
  - 5. Who heals the sick (Matthew 9:1-8).
  - 6. Who raises the dead (John 11:38-44).
  - 7. Who created the world (Hebrews 11:3).
  - 8. Who has promised to never leave nor forsake us (Hebrews 13:5).
- E. Our Father, is the God who in return "Promises,"
  - 1. The "***peace of God ... will keep your hearts and minds 'through' Christ Jesus.***" (Phil. 4:7)
  - 2. "***Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you***" (I Peter 5:7).
  - 3. "***Cast thy burden upon the LORD, and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved***" (Psalms 55:22).
  - 4. "***This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him, and saved him out of all his trouble.***" (Psalms 34:6).

V. **Christians need to "Pray with Thanksgiving" Until We Can Rest... Matthew 6:25-34.**

- A. Take no thought for what we shall eat and drink... (Verse 25).
- B. Take no thought for what we shall put on... (Verse 25).
- C. Take no thought for tomorrow... (Verse 31).
- D. Seek first the Kingdom of God ... (Verse 33).
- E. **Believe** "All these things shall be added to us." (Verse 33)
- F. Christians SHOULD practice prayer every day, all day!
  - 1. When Solomon built the temple in Jerusalem God said, (II Chronicles 7:15)
    - a. "***... mine ears attend unto the prayer that is made in this place.***"
  - 2. God did not say:
    - a. My house shall be known as "a house of great singing."
    - b. Nor, my house shall be known as "a house of great teaching."
    - a. Nor, my house shall be known as "a house of great preaching."
  - 3. God said, "***My house shall be known as a 'house of prayer'***" (Isaiah 56:7).
    - a. Where does this start?
      - 1. **This MUST start with "you and me"** (Acts 12:5).

## LORD TEACH US TO PRAY

### LESSON #3

#### WHAT IS PRAYER?

**John 16:24:** "ask, - - and ye shall receive..."

#### I. What Prayer is not!

- A. Prayer is not Praise!
1. "*Whoso offereth praise glorifieth me...*" (Psalms 50:23).
  2. "*Let every thing that hath breath praise the LORD. Praise ye the LORD*" (Psalms 150:6).
  3. Praise should be practiced, but it is not Prayer! **Prayer is asking!**
- B. Prayer is not Meditation.
1. "*But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.*" (Psalms 1:2).
  2. "*This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night* (Joshua 1:8).
  3. We should meditate in the Word of God daily, but it is not prayer. **Prayer is asking!**
- C. Prayer is not being Humble.
1. "*Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up*" (James 4:10).
  2. "... *he that humbleth himself shall be exalted...*" (Luke 18:14).
  3. "...*if my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face...*" (II Chronicles 7:14). (Humble first - then prayer!)
  4. We should humble ourselves, but that is not prayer. **Prayer is asking!**
- D. Prayer is not Fellowship.
1. "*That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.*" (I John 1:3).
  2. We should have Fellowship with the Father and the Son, but that is not prayer!
    - a. **Prayer is asking!**

#### II. Prayer is Asking!

- A. "*Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full*" (John 16:24).
- B. "*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*" (Luke 11:13)?
- C. "*If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it*" (John 14:14).
1. Prayer is "asking a definite petition" from God.

Acts 12:5 is a "*Pattern for Praying.*"

    1. Prayer was made...
    2. Without ceasing...
    3. By the Church...
    4. Unto God...
    5. For him (Peter).

- D. There are two Greek words in the Bible for the English word, "Ask."
1. Ask: (*Eperotac*) - to inquire, seek: -ask (after, questions), demand, desire, question. The word "ask" as a question, is used 58 times in the New Testament. All 58 times, it is used as "asking a question, etc."
  2. Ask: (*Aiteo*) - to ask (in genitive case): -ask, beg, call for, crave, desire, require. The word "ask," as to need or want of something is used 68 times in the New Testament.
    - a. 68 times it is used as a "request or call" for something.
- E. Prayer includes "asking for forgiveness" (I John 1:9).
1. His "prayer of confession" came first (Daniel 9:4 18-19).  
*"And I prayed unto the LORD my God, and made my confession, and said..." (Verse 4).*
- F. Below gives what should be our "expectation" when we pray (Matthew 7:7-11):
1. "Ask, and it shall be given you..." One who prays expects to receive.
  2. "Seek and ye shall find..." One who seeks expects to find something.
  3. "Knock and it shall be opened to you..." One who knocks expects something to open.
  4. God is willing to:
    - a. Provide for us.
    - b. Forgive our sins.
    - c. Save our souls.
    - d. Comfort us in trials.
    - e. Befriend us in any way necessary.
  5. He is our Father! Fathers never:
    - a. Give a stone when their children ask for bread.
    - b. Give a serpent when their children ask for a fish.
  6. Fathers always "give good things to them that ask him." (Verse 11).

## II. "The Model Prayer" is a "Pattern" for Christians to Follow (Matthew 6:9-13).

- A. This IS NOT "The Lord's Prayer." He had NO REASON to pray this type of prayer.
1. But said, "After this manner (THIS WAY) therefore pray ye..." (Verse 9).
    - a. "Our Father which art in heaven..."
    - b. "Hallowed be thy name... (We come to you speaking reverently.)
    - c. Thy Kingdom come... (**Asking.**)
    - d. Thy will be done - in earth as in heaven... (**Still Asking.**)
    - e. "Give us this day our daily bread..." (**Still Asking.**)
    - f. "And forgive us our debts..." (**Still asking.**)
    - g. "Lead us not into temptation..." (**Still asking.**)
    - h. "Deliver us from evil..." (**Still asking.**)
  2. God closes the model prayer by expressing the "reason" that we should ask of God.
    - a. "For thine is the Kingdom, the power, and the glory... for ever."
    - b. The Kingdom belongs to God...
      1. He is all-powerful - therefore...
      2. He answers prayers "for His glory."

### III. Jesus Gave Us Many Examples of Asking and Receiving.

- A. **Prayer:** The Publican asked, "*God be merciful to me a sinner*" (Luke 18:9-14).  
Jesus answered, "*This man went down to his house justified!*"
- B. **Prayer:** Blind Bartimaeus asked, "*Jesus, Thou Son of David, have mercy on me... that I might receive my sight*" (Mark 10:46).  
Jesus answered, "*Go thy way; thy faith hath made thee whole.*" (Verse 52).
- C. **Prayer:** The thief asked, "*...remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom*" (Luke 23:42).  
Jesus answered, "*Verily, today thou shall be with me in paradise*" (Verse 43).
- D. **Prayer:** The Syrophenician woman asked, "*...have mercy on me O Lord...*" (Matthew 15:22).  
Jesus answered, "*great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt*" (Verse 28).

### IV. Jesus gave us many Parables that Illustrate that "Prayer is Asking."

- A. The parable of the importunate friend (Luke 11:5-10).
- B. The parable of the widow woman before an unjust judge (Luke 18:1-8).

### V. Jesus Gave us a Warning about "Prayers of Hypocrisy" (Matthew 6:5).

### VI. Jesus Gave us a Warning about "Prayers of Pride" (Luke 18:9-12).

**LORD TEACH US TO PRAY**  
**LESSON #4**  
**HOW TO GET WHAT YOU ASK FOR**  
**I John 3:22**

**INTRO:** We have studied three weeks about, "When we pray and ask, God always answers."

Please do not misunderstand this lesson. Please do not think that we can "Ask for anything we want, and we will **automatically** receive it! God has promised to "answer" our every prayer, but at the same time, He has put some "conditions" for us to get our prayers answered.

**EXAMPLE:** God promised a certain land to the Israelites ([Genesis 17:9-12](#)).  
God put a condition on His promise ([Genesis 17:13-14](#)).  
God pointed out that Israel "breached" His promise ([Numbers 14:32-34](#)).  
Israel's faith failed and they did not go up and possess the Promised Land.  
They had not circumcised their children since that day ([Joshua 5:2](#)).

God has given you and me "three basic conditions" in order for us to know how and what we should ask for, so that we will be assured that we will *"receive whatsoever we ask for."*

**The Promises of God to Hear and Answer our Prayers**

**I. What does the Bible say about God Answering the Prayers of His Children?**

- A. God declares, *"...ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full"* ([John 16:24](#)).
  - 1. Meaning, "No" is not an answer to prayer.
  - 2. God says, *"...ye SHALL RECEIVE..."*
  
- B. God declares ([Matthew 7:7](#)):
  - 1. *"ask and it SHALL be given you..."*
  - 2. *"...seek and ye SHALL find..."*
  - 3. *"...knock and it SHALL be opened unto you..."*
  
- C. God understands that we have doubts, so He "reiterates" the above statements in [Matt. 7:8](#)!
  - 1. *"For every one that asketh **receiveth.**"*
  - 2. *"He that seeketh **findeth.**"*
  - 3. *"To him that knocketh **it shall be opened.**"*
  
- D. Those verses, and MANY more, tell us that God "answers our prayers with "Yes!"
  - 1. [II Corinthians 1:20](#) states, *"ALL the promises of God ... are "Yea and Amen!"*
    - a. *"...UNTO THE GLORY OF GOD BY US!"*
  
- E. **QUESTION: Has God promised to answer our prayers???**
  
- F. Any time a child of God, asks their Father for something, and does not receive what they ask: 1. **"THERE IS A REASON"** ([James 4:3](#))!

**OUR HEAVENLY FATHER'S CONDITIONS FOR US, AS HIS CHILDREN,  
"TO GET WHAT WE ASK FOR!"**

**I. For us to "Get What We Ask For" our First Condition is for us to be "Fully Surrendered to His Will."**

**A. Let's Look at the "Model Prayer" (Matthew 6:8-10).**

1. FIRST! Understand that...
  - a. "Our Father knows what things we have need of, before we ask..."
2. Our Father gives us clear instructions on "How to pray" (Verse 9).
  - a. "*After this manner...*"
  - b. "*Our Father, which art in heaven,*
    - i. This is not about the creation, the universe, or future events.
    - ii. This is a "family matter." (Our Father is talking to his family.)
    - iii. Our Father takes FULL responsibility for His family.
  - c. "*Hallowed be thy name ...*" (**Our prayer should begin with worship.**)
    - i. We pray to an "all wise, all loving, all powerful Father/God.
  - d. "*...thy kingdom come.*" (**We put His kingdom before personal interest.**)
  - e. "*...thy will be done.*" (**We accept beforehand "our Father's" Will.**)
    - i. Forgiveness of others is a MUST - to get prayer answered! (Vs. 13)
  - f. Petitions are then made for our present needs!
3. If a child asks - for anything "*out of his Fathers will*"...
  - a. "*... he has asked amiss* (James 4:3).
    - i. Amiss means, "something that is not good for them." (Psalms 84:11).

**B. Bible Justification for our Father asking for "Full Surrender."**

1. "*Present your body a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God...*" (Romans 12:1).
2. "...which is your "**reasonable service.**" "**Why is it "reasonable?"**"
  - a. "*You are not your own...*" (I Corinthians 6:19).
  - b. "*For you are bought with a price...*" (I Corinthians 6:20).
  - c. We have been "*born into the family of God.*" (Gal. 3:26)
3. **ALL** the above is "for our good..."

**II. For us to "Get What We Ask For," our Second Condition is for us to "Abide in Him, and His Word to Abide in Us" (John 15:4-7).**

- A. We know our "Father's Will" by knowing "His Word" (Joshua 1:7-9).
- B. When you pray, "because of the Word of God..."
  1. You should believe it would please your Father to give it to you.
- C. If a Christian is "abiding in God's Word," they could not possibly ask for...
  1. **Anything** that we know is "not the will of God."

- D. In matters of food, funds, and fashion, we claim the promise of God in [Matthew 6:33...](#)
  1. We should "*seek FIRST the kingdom of God and His righteousness...*"
  2. Seeking His kingdom,
    - a. We can claim His promise, "*...and all these things shall be added to you.*"

**III. For us to "Get What We Ask For" our Third Condition is to Seek His Guidance ([Rom. 8:26](#))**

**WARNING!!!**

**Our "carnal minds" are not capable of making "spiritual decisions" without guidance.**

- A. Our Guide is called "*The Comforter*" ([John 14:16](#)).
  1. The word "Comforter" is from the Greek word, "[parakletos](#)."
  2. The Greek word, "[Parakletos](#)" in English means: "**one who comes along side us...**"
- B. The Comforter is "The Holy Spirit."
  1. He not only comes along side us," but:
    - a. He "dwells in us." ([John 14:17](#)).
    - b. He "intercedes for us." ([Romans 8:26](#)).
    - c. Our "body" is the Temple of the Holy Spirit" ([I Corinthians 6:19](#)).
    - d. ...commanded us to be "filled" with the Holy Spirit ([Ephesians 5:18](#)).
      - i. The word "filled" is [Plerro](#) in Greek. It means, "**be controlled by.**"
- C. The Holy Spirit is our guide ([John 16:13](#)).
  1. Guides us to all truth.
  2. He calls things to our remembrance "from the Word of God" ([John 14:26](#)).
  3. He **redirects** our prayer to be "according to the will of God" ([Roman 8:26-27](#)).
- D. The Holy Spirit helps us, "get what we ask for" according to the Word of God!
- E. The Holy Spirit helps us, "get what we need" when we do not know what to ask for!
- F. The Holy Spirit is eager to:
  1. Guide you.
  2. Help you.
  3. To make intercession for you.
  4. To KEEP you in the Will of God.
  5. To make sure you pray in a manner - that will "get you what you asked for."

**IV. If you and I are obedient to our Father's conditions,  
...we can be assured that we will get what we asked for!**

**How and why do we know that?**

**Because...**

***"Your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him."***

**Matthew 6:8**

## **LORD TEACH US PRAY - LESSON #5**

### **NO - NOs WHEN PRAYING**

**INTRO: Learn this first!** Jesus said, “**...without me ye can do nothing**” (John 15:5b). We do not sometimes see it that way. We think we can do lots of things, and if we hit "a bump in the road" **then we pray** and ask Jesus to help us. However, Jesus KNEW that the statement, "*without me you can do nothing*" was 100% true. Knowing that, Jesus repeatedly has told us "*to ask, and it shall be given you.*" Christ never grew tired of inviting us to come to Him in Prayer. He continually encourages us and even "commands" us to come to Him in prayer.

Look at just four of those occasions: (Matthew 7:7-8, John 15:7, Philippians 4:6, Hebrews 4:6 - **COME BOLDLY!**) These are JUST four of the MANY times Jesus invited us "to ask" for something! This, and many other verses tells us "our Heavenly Father, wants and delights in giving His children any good thing they ask for!" **Consider the following picture:**

Jesus calls a sinner to Himself, convicts him of his sin, reveals to him that he is lost and is under the penalty of sin, which is death. He then tells him that Jesus "paid his debt" and He offers the sinner "the FREE gift" of eternal life! The sinner accepts! The sinner immediately becomes a "child of God." Then his Father holds out his hand and says, "Put your hand in mine and come along with me. I am going to guide you through the remainder of your life on earth. Whenever you get in trouble, just tell me about it. I will do whatever is necessary for you to overcome the trouble you are having. Also, when you need something, tell me what you need and because I love you, I will freely give you anything you need!" (Romans 8:32).

On the other side of that picture, try to imagine the "sorrow of heart" that your Heavenly Father has when He has to say to you, "*ye have not because you asked not.*" (James 4:2) What is it that you do not understand about the above picture? In most cases, it is because we "think we can handle it ourselves!" How sad I would be if my children felt that way about me, as their earthly father. It might be because we do not truly know "how" to pray - according to the Scriptures. Let us look at "two things" we do not need to do when we "are having trouble" or when we need something.

#### **I. No-No #1: We Think We Must Help God to Fulfill our Prayer.**

- A. Example: Father, I know that what I am asking is difficult, but if thou will do this and this, and this, and this, you can accomplish it for me!
  - 1. When we "ask for something" it is a "no-no" to tell God what He should do!
- B. **Nowhere in the Bible does God "suggest or imply" that He needs "our input to know what He needs to do!"**
- C. A clear, plain, simple picture of how God wants us to pray is found in (John 2:1-11).
  - 1. The wedding in Cana of Galilee.
  - 2. The hosts were embarrassed when they "ran out of wine."
- D. Look at three basic principles of a prayer that got Mary's prayer answered:
  - 1. Mary, the mother of Jesus, went immediately and straight to Jesus.
    - a. She did not try to "handle it alone."
  - 2. Next, look at the prayer request Mary made "*They have no wine.*"

- a. Note what prayer is. Mary told Jesus what they lacked.
- 3. Mary knew she could "**do nothing without Him!**"
  - a. She did not try to tell him what He should do about the problem.
  - b. She knew that no one was as willing to help as Jesus was.
  - c. She knew she "had done her part."
  - d. She had no idea what He would do or how He would do it.
  - e. **She had NEVER seen Jesus turn water to wine before.**
  - f. I doubt she even "thought of such an answer."
  - g. She knew Him well enough to know that He was not at loss of an answer!
- E. Look at things we do today that keep us from getting an answer:
  - 1. We think that "telling Jesus what we or others lack" is not enough.
  - 2. We do not feel we have really prayed until we tell Jesus "**what He should do.**"
  - 3. We want to know, "**when and how He will do what we asked Him to do!**"
- F. When we do not get an immediate answer to our prayer, **we think:**
  - 1. We did something wrong when we prayed, or
  - 2. We think we have to do something more than we have already done!
- G. All this will change when we "**get to know Him as Mary did.**"
  - 1. We tell him what we lack or what others lack.
  - 2. We feel totally safe.
  - 3. We get up from prayer with peace in our hearts and leave the need with Jesus.
    - a. We trust the Holy Spirit has made intercession "by the will of God."
  - 4. **We REALIZE that we have done all that Jesus expects us to do!**

## II. No-No #2: We Think We Can Press God to Answer Our Prayer Immediately.

- A. When Mary Prayed - She did not get an immediate answer.
  - 1. To the contrary, she got a rather harsh response ([John 2:4](#)).
  - 2. We very often "want an answer immediately."
  - 3. Mary made "**no attempt**" to press Jesus for an answer.
- B. Did Jesus hear Mary's prayer? ABSOLUTELY!
  - 1. He immediately made a plan to answer her prayer.
  - 2. Mary left it "entirely up to Him" as to "**when and how**" He answers her prayer.
- C. Many times, before we pray, "we plan when and how" Jesus should answer our prayer!
  - 1. This is ALWAYS true when we consider it "**an urgent matter.**"
  - 2. In our opinion, there is only ONE way God can fix it - and it must be done now!
  - 3. We think that we understand better than God how He should answer!
  - 4. We try to convince God that "**we know the answer**" we just need Him to do it!
  - 5. We justify telling God He needs to answer it immediately!
    - a. When He does not do it our way ...
      - ...We become frustrated and grow tired of praying.
  - 6. **When you pray like that, you have no peace or confidence - after praying!**
- D. We need to learn that Jesus has His "own time and manner" for answering prayer.
  - 1. And when and how He answers, "will be the perfect answer."

**LORD TEACH US TO PRAY - LESSON #6**  
**HINDRANCES TO PRAYER - PART #1**

**INTRO:** Receiving an answer to prayer should be a "normal, everyday experience." That truth is taught and illustrated throughout the Bible. Please keep in mind as we study, that we are talking about "Obedient Christians."

**BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES OF THINGS THAT HINDER PRAYER (2 things)**

**I. A Wrong Relationship Between a Husband and Wife - Hinders their Prayers (I Peter 3:6-7).**

**A. God begins with the duties of the wife (I Peter 3:1-6).**

1. The wife MUST be in subjection (**hupotasso**) to her husband (**under obedience**). (Vs.1)
  - a. This was God's plan from the beginning (**Genesis 3:16**).
2. The wife MUST have the "ornaments of beauty" (Verse 3-4).
  - a. This has to do with the "**internal**" (Verse 4):
    1. "...of the heart" (Verse 4).
    2. "...of a meek and quiet spirit." (Verse 4)
  - b. The word "ornaments" also refers to the "**external**" beauty of the wife.
    1. (**Proverbs 31:22**)
  - c. God said, "**...which is in the sight of God of great price**" (**I Peter 3:4**).

**B. God gave us an example: "Sara" (Verse 6).**

1. Sara was in subjection to her husband Abraham.
  - a. She called her husband "lord" (**Genesis 18:12**).
  - b. She got her prayers answered. - She gave birth at 90 years of age.
2. It is serious for a wife not to follow "God's" plan.
  - a. The wife is not in rebellion toward her husband.
  - b. She is "**rebellious to the authority of God.**"
3. If this is true...God states, "**your prayers will not be answered**" (Verse 7).

**C. God Then Speaks of the Duties of the Husband (I Peter 3:7).**

1. This indicates that the "husband" is responsible for the relationship.
2. The husband is to "*Dwell with her according to knowledge...*" (**The Scripture!**)
  - a. Be in subjection to your wife (**Ephesians 5:21 & 25**)!
  - b. How? **By "loving your wife as Christ loved the church."**
  - c. Love your wife the same way you love yourself (**Ephesians 5:28-29**)!
3. The husband is to "**...give honor unto the wife...**" (Verse 7).
  - a. Christianity is the only religion that does not treat women as slaves.
  - b. NEVER "put down on your wife."
  - c. NEVER make your wife the "brunt" of a joke!
4. The husband is to treat his wife, as she is, "the weaker vessel...."
  - a. God created her that way.
  - b. The wife is physically weaker.

- c. The wife is emotionally weaker.
  - d. The wife is more delicate.
  - e. The wife is less adapted to the rough and stormy scenes of life.
5. The wife may have mental qualities equal or higher than that of her husband.
- a. The wife may have moral qualities equal or higher than that of her husband.
    - 1. BUT, God made her with a more delicate frame, a more fragile structure.
    - 2. She, physically, is not capable of that of the strong body of her husband.
6. The husband is to "take his place according to Scripture."
- a. The husband is responsible for leading and ruling the home ([I Corinthians 11:3](#)).
    - 1. Husband is the "high priest" of the home.
    - 2. He is responsible for his wife ([Ephesians 5:26](#)) and,
 

**ALWAYS keep the "washing on the delicate cycle."**
    - 3. He is responsible for his children ([Ephesians 6:4](#)).
    - 4. He is responsible for "providing for his family" ([I Timothy 5:8](#)).
7. The husband has been placed by God, in:
- a. The Position of Authority in the family.
  - b. The Position of Accountability for the family.
  - c. The Position of Being the Provider for the family.
  - d. The Position of "Providing a Pattern" for the family ([Joshua 24:15](#)).
8. If the husband of the home will follow the "Scriptures",
- a. America will experience an "Old-Time Revival."
9. If the husband will not "obey the Scriptures,"
- a. **He is in rebellion toward God.**
  - b. God will not answer his prayers ([Verse 7](#)).

## LORD TEACH US TO PRAY - LESSON #7

### HINDRANCES TO PRAYER - PART #2

Matthew 5:23-24

#### A Wrong Relationship Between One Christian and Another Christian

*"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. For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses."* (Matthew 6:9-15)

Two Christians can agree to Disagree! - But still stay right with each other.

#### I. Why Should We Forgive?

- A. If we do not forgive - we shut out forgiveness.
  - 1. Someone said, "I will NEVER forgive him..." You had better hope you NEVER sin!!  
**Example:** (Matthew 18:21-35) - Christ teaching on forgiveness.
    - a. Christ forgave us an impossible debt - \$3,000,000.00.
    - b. We hold a \$15.00 grudge against a brother in Christ!
  - 2. Why should we forgive?
    - a. **IF WE DO NOT - OUR PRAYERS ARE HINDERED** (Psalms 66:18).

#### II. What Forgiveness Is Not.

- A. Three things forgiveness is not:
  - 1. Not just "being polite" - saying, "That's all right!" (Be gracious - but...)
  - 2. Not saying, "forget it." Impossible!
    - a. When we truly forgive, we should act as though it never happened.
  - 3. Not having "justice done" (Matthew 18:21 - Peter).
- B. **What** is forgiveness?
  - 1. Absorbing the hurt.
  - 2. Looking the person in the face and saying, "I forgive you."
  - 3. Leaving the person in perfect fellowship - as though it NEVER happened.  
(Philippians 2:12-15) "It is "God-like" to forgive.

#### III. When Should We Forgive?

- A. Right after we get even! Laugh, but that is what we practice.
  - 1. Man and wife have disagreement; - "I've paid in full!"
- B. When should we forgive - RIGHT AWAY! - - - - Jesus had "The Spirit of Forgiveness."
  - 1. He looked down through the corridor of time and said, "*Father forgive them...*"
  - 2. There was no one at the foot of the cross when Christ said those words.
    - a. Christ holds no grudges!
    - b. If we forgive - we should never bring it up again.
- C. We should have the "spirit of forgiveness" like Christ.
  - 1. Our forgiveness is "effective" to the person - UNTIL they repent and ask for it.
- D. Why should we forgive right away?
  - 1. Avoid root of bitterness (Hebrews 12:1 & 15).
  - 2. To have peace in our lives (Colossians 3:12-17).

**LORD TEACH US TO PRAY**  
**LESSON #7**  
**A PLAN FOR EFFECTIVE PRAYING**  
**I Kings 18:36-39**

**INTRO:** How many have heard of these five men?

Samuel Mills, James Richards, Francis Robbins, Harvey Loomis, and Bryan Green.

These five men met in Williamstown, Massachusetts in 1806.

Discussed the Spiritual needs of the people of Asia.

A storm came up and they found a haystack to protect them from the storm.

These five men formed a group called "The Brethren" in 1808,

The American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions in 1810, and --  
they sent forth the First missionary, A. Judson, to India in 1812.

The named changed to "American Foreign Missions."

50 years later - 1250 missionaries, 100 years later - 5000 missionaries.

**This all started with five young men, in the rain, by a haystack, praying!**

*(James 5:16): "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."*

**I. The Power of the Prayer (I Kings 18:36).**

- A. The "Blood" (They entered in at the "time of evening sacrifice".)
- B. We are to enter "under the blood" (Hebrews 10:19-22).

**II. The Preciseness of the Prayer.**

- A. Elijah prayed only 63 Words! And got his prayer answered!
- B. Some people pray "long prayers for a pretense" (Matthew 23:14).
- C. Public prayers were short. (Long public prayers – most likely not praying in private).
- D. " Be specific"- Get to the point!

**III. The Purpose of the Prayer (I Kings 18:37).**

- A. Our primary purpose must be "to glorify God" (I Corinthians 10:31).

**IV. The Person Doing the Praying.**

- A. A servant – (I Kings 17:5, 10).
- B. A sanctified servant: (James 6:16) – *The effective ... of a righteous man...*

**V. The Pre-requisite of the Prayer (I Kings 18:36).**

- A. Elijah was careful to pray according to "God's Word"!
  - 1. Elijah prayed there would be no rain - and it rained not (I Kings 17:1).
  - 2. Elijah prayed for rain and got rain (I Kings 18:36).(Note: the Word of God also did that) (Deuteronomy 11:17).
- B. Prayer that reaches Heaven – must be based on Scripture.

**VI. The Place of the Prayer (I Kings 18:42).**

- A. Ahab was in a crowd – eating and drinking.
- B. Elijah at the top of the mountain – Alone with God (I Kings 17:19-20).
  - 1. Get in your closet, close the door and pray (Matthew 6:6).

**VII. The Position of the Prayer (I Kings 18:42).**

- A. In humility.
- B. A young preacher boy “**strutted up** to the platform.”
  1. He fumbled, stumbled, and ended up leaving the platform.
  2. He came down from the platform; head down with tears - embarrassed.
  3. Older Christian said: "If you had gone up the way you came down, you would have come down the way you went up!"

**VIII. The Passion of the Prayer (I Kings 18:42).**

- A. Labored in prayer.
- B. Paul – Strove and shed tears (Acts 20:31).
- C. Christ – Sweat Blood (Luke 22:44).
- D. Christ offered up prayers with strong crying (Hebrews 5:7)!

**IX. The Persistence of the Prayer (I Kings 18:43).**

- A. He repeated his prayer "seven" times, until he got the answer.
- B. We are admonished to "*Continue in prayer*" (Colossians 4:2).
- C. A widow woman continued to trouble the judge (Luke 18:1-5).

**X. The Prevailing of the Prayer.**

- A. Fire came down from Heaven (I Kings 18:38).
- B. Showers of blessings came down from Heaven (I Kings 18:45).

Could this happen again?

It can and will happen again,

**...If you and I are willing to take the time and to pray effectively!**