

# The Doctrine of Prayer

Various Scriptures

“Pray at all times in the Spirit with every prayer and request, and stay alert with all perseverance and intercession for all the saints.” -Ephesians 6:18

**In your opinion, what are some common misconceptions about prayer?**

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\*Prayer ensures \_\_\_\_\_ \*The more we pray the more God \_\_\_\_\_

\*Prayer is a \_\_\_\_\_ way street \*Prayer is \_\_\_\_\_

## What is prayer?

**Prayer:** Is an on going *dialogue* between God and people, especially His covenant partners. It is our primary way of seeing God work individually, in the lives of others, and in our world.

- ✓ **Hebrew:** palal; Intervene, interpose; some translations include expected, made judgement favorable, make supplication, meditate. Genesis 20:7,17; Numbers 11:2
- ✓ **Aramaic:** tsela; bow, entreat, on behalf of, middle of the back. Ezra 6:10; Daniel 6:10
- ✓ **Greek:** proseuchomai: towards, exchange wishes, closely inter-connected with faith, supplicate, worship. Matthew 5:44; 26:41-44

**Who was the first person to pray and where is prayer first mentioned in the Bible?**

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Hint: Genesis

**Who was the last person to pray and where is it mentioned in the Bible?**

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Hint: Revelation

## Old vs. New Testament

**Who should we pray to?**

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\*Only to the eternal \_\_\_\_\_. The creator of heavens and earth. Exodus 23:13; Matthew 23:9

## Why should we pray to God?

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- \*To \_\_\_\_\_ who He is. Exodus 3:1-6
- \*For \_\_\_\_\_ in our time of need. Exodus 3:7-8
- \*To \_\_\_\_\_ for others. Exodus 32:11-12; Ephesians 1:15-19
- \*For discernment. Joshua 7:6-9; James 1:5
- \*For deliverance and salvation. Judges 6:14-16; Romans 10:9
- \*For dedication. 1 Samuel 1:10-11
- \*To \_\_\_\_\_ our sins. Psalm 32:5; 1 John 1:9
- \*For \_\_\_\_\_ in our decisions. 1 Kings 3:5-9; Luke 6:12-13
- \*To overcome demonic influences. Matthew 17:14-21
- \*To gather workers for the harvest. Luke 10:2
- \*To overcome temptation. Matthew 26:41
- \*For new beginnings. 1 Kings 8:22
- \*For miracles. 1 Kings 17:19-22; 18:20-40
- \*For moral and social accountability in a nation. Hosea 7:14; Amos 4:4-5
- \*To express reservations, laments, and \_\_\_\_\_. Jeremiah 1; 20:7-18
- \*To give praise, thanksgiving. Psalm 95:1-7
- \*God commands us and Jesus shows us how. Luke 19:1; Philippians 4:6-7; Mark 1:35

**In summation, we should pray to God for all of our physical and spiritual needs.**

## When should we pray?

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- \*As often as the \_\_\_\_\_ lead you, \_\_\_\_\_. Daniel 6:10; Ephesians 6:18; 1 Thess. 5:17

**How should we pray?**

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\*With \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. Psalm 51:17; Luke 18:9-14; James 1:6

\*Privately. Matthew 6:6

\*Publicly. Luke 18:13

\*Family. Acts 1:14

**As you reflect on the who, why, when, and how of prayer, can you think of some things that may hinder us from engaging in an open dialogue with God?**

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-We \_\_\_\_\_ ask. James 4:2

-Unforgiving Spirit. Mark 11:25-26

-Sin Psalm 66:18

-Selfish \_\_\_\_\_ James 4:3

-Strife and division Matthew 5:22-25

-Family problems 1 Peter 3:7

-Refusing to \_\_\_\_\_ to others Luke 6:38

-Lack of \_\_\_\_\_. Hebrews 11:6

**What do you do when you don't know what to say when you to pray?**

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\*Romans 8:26

**Challenge:** Start a list and keep a record of your prayers and answered prayers.

**What is one thing you have learned that you are willing to share with someone else?**

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**Christians should pray everywhere about everything; in secret, in church, always, in the morning, noon, and evening. God will hear you. The greatest enemy of prayer is silence.**