

THE HABIT OF PRAYER

Talking with God

"Base your happiness on your hope in Christ. When trials come, endure them patiently; steadfastly maintain THE HABIT OF PRAYER."

Rom. 12:12 (Ph)

HOW TO REVITALIZE YOUR PRAYER LIFE

I. APPROACH PRAYER WITH THE RIGHT ATTITUDE.

(Matthew 6:5-8)

□BE REAL.

"When you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by men." (vs. 5)

Don't try to _____	<u>IMPRESS GOD</u>
Don't try to _____	<u>IMPRESS OTHERS.</u>

□BE _____ RELAXED. (take a comfortable position)

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

□BE _____ REVEALING. (vulnerable)

"Don't recite the same prayer over and over as the heathen do, who think prayers are answered only be repeating them again and again. Remember, you Father knows exactly what you need before you ask Him! (vs. 7-8 LB)

II. USE THE MODEL JESUS GAVE US

*Matt. 6:9-15 "This, then, is **HOW** you should pray ..."*

THE SIX PARTS OF PRAYER

1. PRAISE: I BEGIN BY _____ EXPRESSING MY LOVE TO GOD

"Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name .."

TWO KINDS OF PRAISE:

- "ADORATION" - Praising God for *who he is*.
- "THANKSGIVING" - Praising God for *what he has done*.

*"Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise. Be **thankful** unto him, and **bless his name**." Ps. 100:4*

HOW TO PRAISE GOD:

1st: As you read your Bible, make a list of God's character qualities that you discover and then review them when you pray. *(See Prayer Guide 1)*

EXAMPLES::

God is patient	Num. 14:18
God is merciful	Num. 14:18
God is forgiving	Num. 14.18
God knows everything	1 Sam. 2:2
God is loving	1 John 4:8

KEY: GOD'S CHARACTER is the basis for our boldness in making requests in prayer. God answers the prayers that acknowledge who he is!

2nd: Remind yourself and affirm the promises God has made that are contained in the meaning of his names. *(See Prayer Guide 2)*

3rd: Make a list of all that you are thankful for and review them when you pray. *(See Prayer Guide 3)*

2. PURPOSE: I COMMIT MYSELF TO DOING GOD'S WILL

"Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven ..."

Pray for God's will to be done ... in my family ... my church ... my ministry ... my job ... my future ... my city ... the nation ... the world.

"Offer yourself as a living sacrifice to God, dedicated to his Service and pleasing to him. This is the true worship that you should offer." Rom. 12:2 (GN)

3. PROVISION: I ASK GOD TO PROVIDE MY DAILY NEEDS

*"Give us today our **daily** bread ..."*

What needs can I pray about? ALL MY NEEDS

*"God will supply **all** your needs from his riches in glory because of what Christ Jesus has done for us."* Phil. 4:19 (LB)

"Since God did not spare even his own Son for us but gave him up for us, won't he also surely give us everything else?" Rom. 8:32

"You do not have ... because you don't ask God!" James 4:2

THE KEY: BE SPECIFIC IN YOUR REQUEST

Write down your requests, with a promise you are claiming from the Bible, and expect an answer!
(See Prayer Guide 4)

"Don't worry about anything, but in everything, by pray and petition with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." Phil. 4:6

4. PARDON: I ASK GOD TO __ FORGIVE MY SINS __

"Forgive us our debts ..."

4 Steps to Forgiveness

1. Ask the Holy Spirit __ REVEAL __ every sin.

"Examine me, O God, and know my mind; test me, and discover my thoughts. Find out if there is any evil in me".
Ps. 139:23-24

2. Confess each sin __ SINCERELY __.

"You will never succeed in life if you try to hide your sins. Confess them and give them up; then God will show mercy to you." Prov. 28:13 (GN)

3. Make __ PEACE __ with others when necessary.

"When you remember your brother has something against you ... go at once to make peace with him, then come back and offer your gift to God. Matt. 5:23-24 (GN)

4. By Faith, __ RECEIVE/ACCEPT __ God's Forgiveness.

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins, and purify us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9

5. PEOPLE: I PRAY FOR __ OTHER PEOPLE __

"... as we have also forgive our debtors."

"Pray much for others; plead for God's mercy upon them; give thanks for all he is going to do for them.
1 Tim. 2:1 (LB)

If you want to know how to pray for others ... check out the following scriptures,

Eph. 1:15-19, Col. 1:3-12, 1 Th. 1:2-3, 2 Th. 1:11-12

Make a prayer list of people you want to pray for. You might pray for different people on different days of the week. (See Prayer Guide #5)

6. PROTECTION: I ASK FOR __ SPIRITUAL (DIVINE) PROTECTION __

"And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from the evil one."
(vs. 13)

Believers face spiritual battle every day. Satan wants to defeat you through temptation and fear. By praying for protection, you will have the confidence to face every situation during the day.

"The Spirit who is in you is more powerful than the spirit who is in those who belong to the world."
1 John 4:4 (GN)

PRAYER GUIDE 1
CHARACTER TRAITS OF GOD

Faithful	II Cor. 1:20
Righteous	II Tim. 4:8
The Light	John 8:12

PRAYER GUIDE 2

THE NAMES OF GOD

Did you know that God has several names? They are all in the Bible and each name describes a facet of his character. You can take each of these 8 names and focus individually on what God is really like! Pray the names of God as affirmations of praise!

8 HEBREW NAMES OF GOD - DECLARE WHO GOD IS

Jehovah-Shammah-" God is Present with me" (Ezekiel 48:35) You are here! I am never alone!

Jehovah-Rohi-" God is my Shepherd" (Psalm 23:1) You lead me and feed me and protect me!

Jehovah-Jireh-" God is my Provider" (Gen. 22:14) You see what I need before I even ask!

Jehovah-Rophe-" God is my Healer" (Exodus 15:26) You can heal my body, emotions, and relationships!

Jehovah-Tsidkenu-" God is my Righteousness" (Jer. 23:6) You accept me and forgive me because of Jesus!

Jehovah-M'Kiddish-" God is my Sanctification" (Lev. 20:8) You make me holy and like Jesus!

Jehovah-Shalom-" God is my Peace" (Judges 6:24) You give me peace in spite of circumstances!

Jehovah-Nissi-" God is my Banner" (Exodus 17:15) You are my victory in conflict and confrontation!

Think on the implications of these names and you'll have plenty to praise God for!

PRAYER GUIDE 3 MY THANKSGIVING LIST

[illegible]

PRAYER GUIDE 4
MY PERSONAL REQUESTS

Date	Request	Promise	Date Answered
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PRAYER GUIDE 5
PEOPLE I'M PRAYING FOR

Family_____

Christian Friends_____

Friends I'd like to see become Christians_____

Spiritual Leaders_____

Government Leaders_____

Others_____
