

LESSON # 4  
SOME INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING PRAYER

I. THE RESOURCE WHICH THE BELIEVER HAS IN PRAYER.

- A. Prayer allows the believer to talk to \_\_\_\_\_  
(Rom. 8:15,16; Gal. 4:6; I Jn. 3:2).
- B. Prayer is a \_\_\_\_\_ to the heart of God when His  
children talk to Him (Prov. 15:8; Jn. 9:24).
- C. Prayer is a wonderful \_\_\_\_\_ and the means  
by which we may receive God's \_\_\_\_\_ and  
\_\_\_\_\_ for our every need (Heb. 4:14-16).  
(Note the song: What a Friend we Have in Jesus)
- D. Prayer is a powerful resource because prayer \_\_\_\_\_  
things.
1. Prayer can make the difference between heaven and hell  
(Lk. 23:42,43; Rom. 10:13).
  2. Prayer can make the difference between sickness and  
health (Jas. 5:15,16). (note the prayer of a little  
girl)
  3. Prayer can make the difference between having blessings  
and doing without blessings (Jas. 4:2).
  4. Prayer can make the difference between power for service  
and no power for service (Acts 4:31, Jn. 15:5;  
Mark 9:28,29).

5. Prayer can make the difference between opportunities in God's services and no opportunities (I Chron. 4:9; Col. 4:2,3).
6. Prayer can make the difference between victory and defeat (Josh 10:12-14).
7. Prayer can make the difference between life and death (II Kings 20:1-7; Dan. 2:1-23).
8. Prayer can make the difference between a troubled soul and peace of mind (Phil. 4:4-7).

## II. EVERY BELIEVER NEEDS TO LEARN CERTAIN THINGS TO HAVE AN EFFECTIVE PRAYER LIFE.

### A. We need to learn how to approach God and how to address Him.

1. When we come to the Lord in prayer we should come to Him in \_\_\_\_\_ (Matt. 21:22; Heb. 11:6; Jas. 1:6).
2. We should come with a certain \_\_\_\_\_ (Heb. 4:16) but also with \_\_\_\_\_ (II Chron. 7:14; 33:12).
3. We should come in \_\_\_\_\_ (Lk. 18:11,12) and not \_\_\_\_\_.
4. We should address Him as our Heavenly Father (Rom. 8:15,16; Gal. 4:6) Note the pattern which Jesus gave to all His disciples Lk. 11:1-4.

B. We need to learn what to say when we pray.

1. Someone has suggested that our prayers ought to involve five particular steps or areas.
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_ - involves ascribing worship to God for who He is.
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_ - involves acknowledging our sins and asking God's forgiveness.
  - c. \_\_\_\_\_ - is beseeching God on behalf of our own needs or the needs of others.
  - d. \_\_\_\_\_ - is praying for others that God would work in some way in their behalf.
  - e. \_\_\_\_\_ - is a matter of recognizing God's blessings and praising Him for these.
  
2. Someone else has suggested that prayer should contain three "looks".
  - a. An " \_\_\_\_\_ " - in which we should praise and adore the Lord.
  - b. An " \_\_\_\_\_ " - in which we should deal with our sins and make confession.
  
  - c. An " \_\_\_\_\_ " - in which we should petition God on behalf of others.
  
3. Still another has suggested an acrostic using the word "Acts".
  - a. "A" stands for \_\_\_\_\_ and praise.
  - b. "C" stands for \_\_\_\_\_ of sin.
  - c. "T" stands for \_\_\_\_\_ for what He has done.

d. "S" stands for \_\_\_\_\_ which involves petitioning God for our needs and the needs of others.

4. To summarize we should simply address God as our heavenly Father and tell Him what is on your heart. Then we should close our prayer in Jesus' name (Jn. 14:13; I Tim. 2:5).

C. We need to learn how God speaks to us and how He answers our prayers.

1. God speaks to the believer through His Word and reveals His will to us in providentially opening or closing doors or by promptings by the Holy Spirit but these are never contrary to His Word (II Tim. 3:16,17; Acts 16:7; 20:22,23).

2. God may answer our prayers in one of three ways - yes, no, or wait awhile. Sometimes we must mature in certain ways before God can give us the things we desire of Him.

### III. EVERY BELIEVER NEEDS TO MAKE PRAYER AN HABITUAL PART OF HIS WALK WITH THE LORD.

A. The Bible teaches us that the Lord Jesus made \_\_\_\_\_ a regular practice in His life. (Mt. 14:23; 26:36-39; Mk. 1:35; 6:41,46; Jn. 17; Heb. 5:7).

B. The Bible gives us many \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ to make prayer a regular practice in our lives (Psa. 55:17; Dan. 6:10,11; Lk. 18:1; I Thess. 5:17).

C. The Bible gives us a host of \_\_\_\_\_ for whom we ought to pray. We should pray for:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ (I Tim. 2:2)

2. \_\_\_\_\_ (II Cor. 1:11; Phil. 1:19)

3. \_\_\_\_\_ (Eph. 6:18)

4. \_\_\_\_\_ (I Tim. 2:1)

5. \_\_\_\_\_ (Gen. 17:18; Mt. 15:22)
6. \_\_\_\_\_ (Job 42:8)
7. \_\_\_\_\_ (Jas. 5:14)
8. \_\_\_\_\_ (Mt. 5:44)
9. \_\_\_\_\_ (Jas. 5:16)

D. The Bible gives us a number of \_\_\_\_\_ for which we ought to pray. We ought to pray:

1. About \_\_\_\_\_ (Phil. 4:6)
2. For the \_\_\_\_\_ (Rom. 10:1)
3. For \_\_\_\_\_ (Jas. 1:5)
4. For \_\_\_\_\_ (Heb. 4:16)
5. For \_\_\_\_\_ (Matt. 6:11)
6. For \_\_\_\_\_ (Matt. 6:10)
7. For \_\_\_\_\_ (Col. 4:3,4)

E. Notice the only way you and I can pray about these various needs and individuals is to make prayer an habitual part of our lives.

#### IV. EVERY BELIEVER NEEDS TO ESTABLISH A SYSTEM TO MAINTAIN A CONSISTENT PRAYER LIFE.

A. To have a consistent prayer life requires setting aside

particular \_\_\_\_\_ for prayer (Psa. 55:17,88:1).

B. A consistent prayer life involves appropriating a

\_\_\_\_\_ from God's Word concerning prayer (Psa. 91:15; II Chron. 7:14; Isa. 65:24; Jer. 33:3;

Matt. 7:7,11; Jn. 14:14; 15:7; Phil. 4:6; Heb. 4:16).

C. A consistent prayer life requires a prayer \_\_\_\_\_ or method of remembering certain needs. One could make a list of names and needs or use the days of the week to help him remember specific people and needs (M could remind of missionaries; T could remind of things to be thankful for and so on).

D. A consistent prayer life involves a matter of daily

\_\_\_\_\_ of our sins and seeking \_\_\_\_\_  
(Dan. 9:4; Prov. 28:13; I Jn. 1:9):.

V. EVERY BELIEVER NEEDS TO UNDERSTAND WHAT WILL HINDER HIS PRAYERS FROM BEING ANSWERED.

A. We cannot expect God to answer our prayers if we lack the

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ to get an answer from God

(Mk. 11:24; Lk. 11:9,10; Heb. 11:6).

B. We cannot expect God to answer our prayers if we have

\_\_\_\_\_ in our lives (Jer. 5:24;

Psa. 66:18; Isa. 59:2).

C. We cannot expect God to answer our prayers when we have

\_\_\_\_\_ and hold grudges

against others (Mk. 11:24,25).

D. We cannot expect God to answer our prayers when we ask

\_\_\_\_\_ for things or ask for things which

are not according to His \_\_\_\_\_ (Jas. 4:3; I Jn. 5:14).

E. We cannot expect God to answer our prayers when we do not

have a loving and harmonious \_\_\_\_\_ with our spouse (I Pet. 3:7).

VI. EVERY BELIEVER NEEDS TO REALIZE THE SINFULNESS IN FAILING TO PRAY.

A. Failure to pray is stated very expressly in God's Word to

be a \_\_\_\_\_ ( I Sam. 12:33).

B. Failure to pray becomes something sinful because it is

direct \_\_\_\_\_ to a host of Scriptural

commands for the believer (Lk. 18:1; I Thess. 5:1;7;

Eph. 6:18).

C. Failure to have a consistent prayer life is an open

\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ and other sin.

(Mk 14:38; Lk 22:40).

VII. MEMORY VERSES: HEB.. 11:6; II CHRON.. 7:14; HEB.. 4:16; JER. 33:3.

VIII. QUESTIONS RELATING TO THIS LESSON

A. What command did Jesus give us in Jn. 16:14?

\_\_\_\_\_

B. Name two conditions for effective prayers disclosed in

II Chron. 7:14.

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C. According to Psa. 66:18 what will hinder our prayers from

being answered? \_\_\_\_\_

D. Heb. 4:16 invites us to come to the Lord with \_\_\_\_\_

in prayer.

E. Name two persons the believer should pray for (Jas. 5:16; Eph. 6:18).

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F. Name two things the believer should pray for (Rom. 10:1; Col. 4:3,4).

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G. Name 5 things our prayers should contain.

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H. According to James 4:2 why do some people lack certain things?

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I. According to Heb. 11:6 God rewards whom? \_\_\_\_\_

J. When we pray we should pray to the \_\_\_\_\_



thru the \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ name.