



Prayer – Relying on God to do what only he can do!
September 14/15, 2019

Pray First

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus. - 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Prayer should be our first response, not our last resort.

When I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or command locusts to devour the land or send a plague among my people, if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land. - 2 Chronicles 7:13-14

Not knowing how to pray is one of the greatest obstacles in developing a pray first mentality.

One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When He finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray...” - Luke 11:1

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one, for yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. - Matthew 6:9-13

How to Pray – An Outline

1. Connect with God relationally.

“Our Father in heaven”

You have not received a spirit that makes you fearful slaves. Instead, you received God’s Spirit when he adopted you as his own children. Now we call him, “Abba, Father.” - Romans 8:15

2. Worship His Name.

“Hallowed be Your Name”

God's name is a place of protection—the righteous can run there and be safe. - Proverbs 18:10 MSG

3. Pray His agenda first.

"Your Kingdom come Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven"

*But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.
- Matthew 6:33*

4. Depend on Him for everything.

"Give us this day our daily bread"

I look up to the mountains—does my help come from there? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth! - Psalm 121:1-2

5. Get your heart right with God and people.

"Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors"

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

6. Engage in spiritual warfare.

"And do not lead us into temptation but deliver us from the evil one"

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. - Ephesians 6:12

7. Express faith in God's ability.

"For yours is the Kingdom and the Power and the Glory forever."

"Ah, Sovereign LORD, you have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and outstretched arm. Nothing is too hard for you." - Jeremiah 32:17

"To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power, for ever and ever!" - Revelation 5:13

Prayer:

Jesus, I need you. I'm turning from my sins today,
And I believe in you. I receive you into my life,
And make you my Lord and Savior.
— In Jesus Name, Amen