

# How To Pray

Luke 11:1-13

## Introduction

1. "Lord, teach us to pray."
2. Prayer is essential to the life of a Christian.
3. It takes time for it to become a fixture in our lives.
4. Therefore, we must consider the Lord's instructions on how to pray so that we can begin making it a part of who we are.

## Discussion

### I. In this Manner, Pray: Matt. 6:9-13.

- A. Vs. 9: Reverence for God.
- B. Vs. 10: Desire for the Lord's will to be done.
- C. Vs. 11: Acknowledge our need for God.
- D. Vs. 12: Ask for forgiveness.
- E. Vs. 13: Pray for continual guidance.
- F. Vs. 13: Praise and honor to God.

### II. Persistence in Prayer

- A. We need faith in our prayers.
  1. Faith is having the confidence that God hears our prayers.
  2. Faith is also persistent in making requests known to God.
- B. The unjust judge: Luke 18:1-8.
- C. The friend at midnight: Luke 11:5-10.
- D. Pray unceasingly: 1 Thess. 5:17.

### III. What To Pray For

- A. Personal concerns; all that is on our hearts: Phil. 4:6-7.
- B. Civil government: 1 Tim. 2:1-2; Rom. 13:1ff.
- C. Enemies: Matt. 5:44.
- D. Those who proclaim the word: Eph. 6:18-19.
- E. The spread of the gospel: 2 Thess. 3:1-2.
- F. Pray for all things with thanksgiving: Col. 4:2; Heb. 13:15

### IV. Things to Avoid in Prayer

- A. Hypocrisy: Matt. 6:5-8
- B. Doubt: James 1:5-7
- C. Preaching vs. petitioning—making a point to the people listening rather than making requests known to God.

## Conclusion

1. Prayer directs our hearts to God.
2. Through it we acknowledge Him and rely on Him for all things.
3. A life without prayer will never grow.
4. A prayerful life cannot help but grow and draw closer to God.
5. Let us, therefore, learn how we ought to pray, and continue diligently in it.

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