

A TIME TO PRAY

1. In your words, what is prayer?

2. In God's words, what is prayer? (Jeremiah 33:3)

3. Match the statements about prayer with the verses.

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| a. 1 John 5:14 | ___ | You could pray because you're <u>troubled or joyful</u> . |
| b. 1 Chronicles 16:11 | ___ | Praying definitely <u>opens</u> our eyes to things. |
| c. Ephesians 1:18 | ___ | God <u>hears</u> us. |
| d. Ephesians 6:18 | ___ | God <u>loves to hear</u> us. |
| e. James 5:13 | ___ | Prayer brings God <u>close</u> to our heart. |
| f. Matthew 5:44 | ___ | Prayer lets me look into the <u>face</u> of God. |
| g. Mark 6:7 | ___ | God wants our prayers to get to <u>the point</u> . |
| h. Matthew 26:41 | ___ | Prayer alerts us to the dangers of <u>temptation</u> . |
| i. Proverbs 15:8 | ___ | Prayer allows us to talk to God about <u>anything</u> . |
| j. Psalm 145:18 | ___ | Do not leave your <u>enemies</u> out of your prayers. |

4. Let's evaluate the pitfalls of praying and see if you are guilty.

Luke 18:9-14 He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt: "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!'"

- a. ___Yes ___No Did this Pharisee ask God for anything?
- b. ___Yes ___No Did this Pharisee offer any worship or admiration for God?
- c. What the Pharisee's main subject in the prayer? _____
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d. ___Yes ___No Was the prayer of the tax collector any different? If so, how?

e. ___Yes ___No Do you ever fall into this trap?

5. Here are some behaviors that will definitely hinder our prayers. Match behavior & verse.

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| a. Proverbs 15:8 | ___ | Not honoring your wife |
| b. Matt. 6:5 | ___ | Insincerity & fancy words |
| c. Matt. 6:7 | ___ | Deliberate disobedience to what God says. (Proverbs 28:9) |
| d. James 4:3 | ___ | Selfish desires rather than God's desires |
| e. 1 Peter 3:7 | ___ | Living a fake life = a hypocrite |

6. How does sin affect our prayers? (Isaiah 59:2) _____

7. How does sin affect our prayers? (Psalm 66:18) _____

8. ___Yes ___No Have you noticed problems praying when sin is in your life?

It almost brings me to tears when I consider how much God wants to hear from us and talk to us - yet, we ignore Him & treat Him like a distant relative.

9. Match these thoughts with the verses.

- a. Matthew 17:20 ___ Here's a prayer model to follow. Let me hear from you.
- b. John 14:13 ___ Start by giving Me credit for all things. Contact me soon.
- c. Hebrews 11:6 ___ You only need a small seed of faith. Let me hear from you.
- d. Matthew 6:9-13 ___ You need to thank someone. Let me hear from you.
- e. Philippians 4:4-7 ___ You can come confidently to Me. I am looking forward to it.
- f. Hebrews 4:16 ___ You can start by saying God's exists. Let me hear from you.

| MATTHEW 6 | | LUKE 11 | | |
|------------------|----|------------------------------------|---|---|
| Addressed to God | 9 | "Our Father in heaven" | 2 | "Our Father in heaven" |
| | 9 | "Hallowed be Your name" | 2 | "Hallowed be Your name" |
| | 10 | "Your kingdom come" | 2 | "Your kingdom come" |
| | 10 | "Your will be done" | 2 | "Your will be done" |
| Addressed for Me | 10 | "On earth as it is in heaven" | 2 | "On earth as it is in heaven" |
| | 11 | "Give us this day our daily bread" | 3 | "Give us day by day our daily bread" |
| | 12 | "And forgive us our debts" | 4 | "And forgive us our sins" |
| | 12 | "As we forgive our debtors" | 4 | "For we also forgive everyone indebted to us" |
| | 13 | "But deliver us from evil" | 4 | "But deliver us from the evil one" |
| Addressed to God | 13 | "Yours is the kingdom forever" | | |
| | 13 | "Yours is the power forever" | | |
| | 13 | "Yours is the glory forever" | | |

Addressed to God = Worshipping God telling Him How Great He is

Addressed for Me = Worshipping God telling Him How much I need Him.

- 10. When you pray, where do we spend most of your time? ___ God ___ Me
- 11. Where does God want us to spend out time in prayer? ___ God ___ Me ___ Both
- 12. Why do you think God wants us to tell Him what He already knows?

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- 13. ___ Yes ___ No Did you notice that the "forgiveness" mentioned is a package deal. While He is forgiving us, we are forgiving others?
 - 14. ___ Yes ___ No Did you notice that telling God Who He is comes first?
 - 15. If we know who God is, what does that do to our faith when we ask God for things?
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"AMISS" = "Missing the point", "misleading God", "making good things crooked", "lying through your teeth"

James 4:2-3 You ask and do not receive, because you ask "amiss", so that you may spend it on your pleasures.

- 16. ___ Yes ___ No Do you sometimes pray because you want your own way, not God's?
- 17. ___ Yes ___ No Do you sometimes pray pretending to be holy when you full of sin?
- 18. ___ Yes ___ No Do you sometimes pray expecting no answer of any kind?
- 19. ___ Yes ___ No Do you ever pray accusing God of "screwing you over" before?