## A TIME TO PRAY

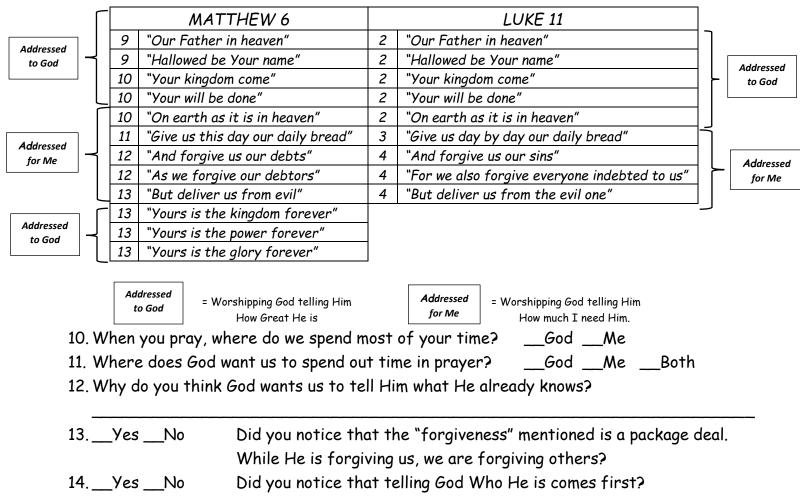
- 1. In your words, what is prayer?
- 2. In God's words, what is prayer? (Jeremiah 33:3)
- 3. Match the statements about prayer with the verses.
  - a. 1 John 5:14 \_\_\_\_ You could pray because you're troubled or joyful.
  - b. 1 Chronicles 16:11 \_\_\_\_ Praying definitely opens our eyes to things.
  - c. Ephesians 1:18 \_\_\_\_ God <u>hears</u> us.
  - d. Ephesians 6:18 \_\_\_\_ God loves to hear 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 the point.
  - h. Matthew 26:41 \_\_\_\_ Prayer alerts us to the dangers of temptation.
  - 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?
- 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.
  - 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.



15. If we know who God is, what does that do to our faith when we ask God for things?

"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	
17	Vad	NIa	

17.\_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No 18.\_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No

19. Yes No

Do you sometimes pray because you want your own way, not God's? Do you sometimes pray pretending to be holy when you full of sin? Do you sometimes pray expecting no answer of any kind? Do you ever pray accusing God of "screwing you over" before?