

Luke 11:1-13

A NEW COMMUNICATION: HOW TO TALK TO GOD

MEMORY VERSE: John 16:24

For any relationship to become meaningful there must be constant communication. Prayer is the only way we can communicate with Christ. When a person becomes a Christian, he discovers the opportunities that prayer offers.

SINCE PRAYER IS TALKING TO GOD, WHAT ASPECTS OF GOOD COMMUNICATION ARE NECESSARY?

COMPARE THE OLD LIFE WITH THE NEW LIFE:

The Old Life:

1. Using God's name is disrespect
2. Praying in emergencies
- 3.
- 4.

The New Life:

1. Talking to God in love
2. Desire to pray everyday
- 3.
- 4.

Prayer is not only asking what we wish of God, but offering what He wishes of us. Even though some praying comes naturally to a new Christian, we still must learn the discipline of effective praying. In this lesson we will see how prayer is the way we build a meaningful and intimate relationship with Jesus Christ.

I. EFFECTIVE PRAYING IS BASED UPON OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST.

1. According to James 5:16, what kind of person prays effectively?

2. According to Hebrews 4:14-16, how can we have confidence to draw near to God?

3. According to John 14:13-14, what one thing must we do before God will work on our behalf?

To ask in His name means to ask in His authority and on His merit.

II. EFFECTIVE PRAYING CAN BE HINDERED BY IMPROPER CONDUCT.

1. What reason for not receiving an answer to our prayers do we find in James 4:3?

2. If we have unconfessed sin in our lives, what does Psalm 66:18 say will happen to our prayers?

3. According to Matthew 6:14-15 what must we do to receive forgiveness from God?

4. What does James 1:6-7 say will keep us from receiving anything from the Lord?

III. EFFECTIVE PRAYING IS DETERMINED BY CERTAIN CONDITIONS.

1. When we pray, how does God respond? Jeremiah 33:3

2. What happens when people pray together? Matthew 18:19

3. What limits what God does? Ephesians 3:20; James 4:2b; Matthew 13:58

4. In what ways does Matthew 7:9-11 tell us that God's response to our prayers is like that of a good father's response to his children?

5. What does I Peter 5:7 encourage us to do during prayer?

CHALLENGE: Follow Daniel's example Daniel 6 & 9

1. Why was Daniel unwilling to stop praying in 6:10?

2. What ingredients are a part of Daniel's prayer?

a) Daniel 9:4

b) Daniel 9:5

c) Daniel 9:18

QUESTION: Are your prayers prayed with faith? Mark 11:24

APPLICATION: Write out a prayer to God which includes: Adoration, Confession Thanksgiving & Supplication

FOR FURTHER STUDY:

1. What characterizes the leper's prayer in Mark 1:40

2. Read Philippians 4:6-7

a) What is the wrong reaction to have toward difficult circumstances?

b) What is the right response?

c) What is the result of this right response?

3. How do you think God would respond to a request for something He knows would be bad for you?

But if you insisted? Psalm 106:14-15; Numbers 11:18-20, 31-34

4. In Luke 11:1-13 Jesus showed us how we should pray. List those ways:

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

5. Study Passages on Prayer

a) Luke 18:1-8 Parable of the Widow

b) Luke 18:9-12 Parable of the Pharisee

c) Luke 18:13-14 Parable of the Tax Collector

d) Luke 11:5-13 Parable of the Friend at Midnight

e) Matthew 18:23-35 Parable of the Unmerciful Servant

f) John 17:1-26 Christ's Prayer

CONCLUSION: "To pray is to change. Prayer is the central avenue God uses to transform us. If we are unwilling to change, we will abandon prayer as a noticeable characteristic of our lives." (Richard Foster) To cease asking, to cease seeking, to cease knocking is to cease changing and growing!