

Why Do We Pray?



God Hears Us From Heaven

- **2 Chronicles 6:29-30** "whatever prayer, whatever supplication is made by anyone, or by all Your people Israel, when each one knows his own burden and his own grief, and spreads out his hands to this temple: then hear from heaven Your dwelling place, and forgive, and give to everyone according to all his ways, whose heart You know (for You alone know the hearts of the sons of men),"

Jesus Tells Us To Ask Our Father

- **Matthew 7:7-11** "“Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.

Or what man is there among you who, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent? If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!"

Jesus Disciples Asked About Prayer

- **Luke 11:1-4** " Now it came to pass, as He was praying in a certain place, when He ceased, that one of His disciples said to Him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples." So He said to them, "When you pray, say: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven. Give us day by day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, For we also forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one.""

What is Prayer?

- **1 Timothy 2:1** " Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men,"
 - Supplications ~ To ask for something you want.
 - Prayers ~ Any kind of talking to God.
 - Intercessions ~ To ask for help for another.
 - Giving of Thanks ~ Telling of ones thankfulness.

Why Should We Pray?

- God told us to, and to be thankful for what we have.
 - **Colossians 4:2** "Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving;"
- To stop ourselves from doing something we want to do but know is wrong.
 - **Matthew 26:41** "Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.""
- To receive the peace of God.
 - **Philippians 4:5-7** "Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand. Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

Why Should We Pray? cont.

- When we want to know what the right thing to do is.
 - **James 1:5** "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him."
- When someone is sick we ask God to help them get better
 - **James 5:13-15** "Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing psalms. Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven."
- To ask God to forgive us
 - **Acts 8:22** "Repent therefore of this your wickedness, and pray God if perhaps the thought of your heart may be forgiven you."