

## 78. Prayer

Prayer is the heart's humble and sincere conversation with God.

When prayer is the heart's spontaneous sense of God's nearness, it is called devotion. In prayer we can also ask God for spiritual and bodily good for ourselves and our neighbors. We thank God for His goodness and praise His holy name.

"Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for him" (Psa. 37:7)

"And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me."  
(Psa. 50:15)

"The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." (James 5:16)

"Pray without ceasing. Give thanks in every circumstance." (1 Thess. 5:17, 18)

"Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen." (Rev. 7:12)

## 79. Our Father

When the disciples saw that they did not know how to pray, Jesus taught them the Lord's Prayer. All Christians join in this prayer.

Jesus taught the disciples to pray: Luke 11: 1-13.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

## 80. Prayer in Jesus' Name

When while we pray we boldly trust in what Jesus Christ has done on our behalf and at the same time submit to God's will, we pray in Jesus name.

Jesus prayed in Gethsemane: "Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done." (Luke 22:42)

"And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do." (John 14:13)

## 81. The Hearing of Prayer

God hears everyone's prayer. In His love, however, He often delays fulfilling our prayers or then gives us that which is more needful for us.

"Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you." (Matt. 7:7)

"Jesus saith .... mine hour is not yet come." (John 2:4)

"Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving." (Col. 4:2)

"[He] is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think" (Eph. 3:20)

## 82. Our Great Intercessor

When our prayer is weak, we have the comfort that Christ, our glorified Lord, prays in our behalf.

"It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us." (Rom. 8:34)