

A Better Way To Pray

Overview:

- Jesus had to reveal what prayer was not, before He taught what it is.

Hypocrites Love To Pray

- The heart attitude behind your prayer interests God much more than the actual words you say.
- God has already done everything He's ever going to do! He moved once and for all in the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
- Prayer is not trying to twist God's arm to make Him do something.
- Prayer is receiving by faith what He has already done!

Serious Misconceptions About Prayer

- Prayer becomes religious when you try to use it for something God never intended.
- Prayer is communion with God! The expression of this communion isn't limited to a particular set of body positions.
- Be creative and find ways to commune with Him all day long!
- Praying God's solution from the Word releases life, but praying negatively and focusing on your problems only energizes and strengthens them.

"Death and life are in the power of the tongue..." Proverbs 18:21

Make A Prayer Sandwich

- Start your prayer thanking Him, praising Him, and declaring how big He is. Then slide in your petition and end by praising Him some more.
- When you approach God with your request by slipping it in between two healthy slices of praise and thanksgiving, you'll find that you don't really have that much to ask Him for.
- You need to learn how to fellowship with God in the midst of everyday life.



The Primary Purpose Of Prayer

- Prayer is communion with God. It's fellowship, relationship, and intimacy with Him.
- Prayer is a two-way conversation with God. It is both talking and listening.
- Asking and receiving is one purpose of prayer, but not the only purpose.
- *"Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing?" Matthew 6:25*
- Your perspective changes when you put God first by praising Him! The entire way you think changes because of His influence.
- When you magnify God, you discover how insignificant your problems really are.

Speak To Your Mountain

"Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them." Mark 11:24

- Your actions must also be consistent with your faith.
- Speak to your problem and command it to change. Direct your faith with your words.
- Pray in cooperation with the laws that govern how it works. Resist the devil. Speak to the problem and command it to leave.

Reflection:

If the way you are praying isn't getting good results, why then would you resist change in this area?

Are you aware that you can exercise powerful spiritual gifts and make tremendous personal sacrifices, but still not impress God?

Do you know how to appreciate God in the small things?

Think on your prayer life. Do you talk to God about your mountain or to your mountain about God?
