

Pray Meaningfully

PP Church of Christ



Romans 8:26

Likewise the Spirit also
helpeth our infirmities:
for we know not what we
should pray for as we ought:
but the Spirit itself maketh
intercession for us
with groanings which cannot
be uttered.



Introduction

Part of Walking with God Series

Most people talk about prayer

Not many grow in prayerfulness



What We Have Been Taught...

Acts of Prayer

Adoration

Confession

Thanksgiving

Supplication



How God Answers Prayer

Yes – Centurion's Servant (Matthew 8:13)

No – Paul's Thorn in the Flesh
(2 Corinthians 12:8-9)

Wait – Lazarus' illness (John 11:21)



Nothing Wrong...

Too elementary, no room for growth

Focus on wrong aspect - Gifts

Not what Prayer is actually about



Consider the Lord's Prayer

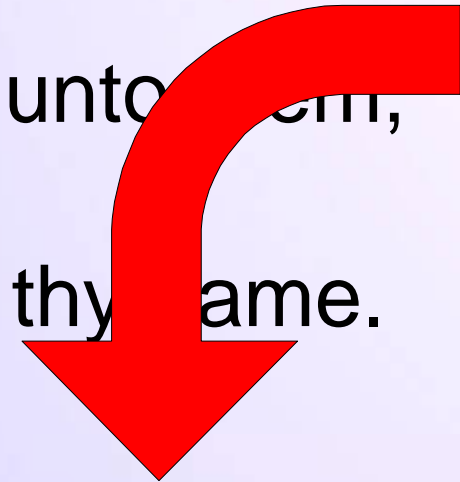
Luke 11:2-4 And he said unto them,
When ye pray, say,

Father, Hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come.

Give us day by day our daily bread.

And forgive us our sins; for we
ourselves also forgive every
one that is indebted to us.

And bring us not into temptation.



We Need New Perspective on Prayer

Not to treat it as a Wishing Well

Seek the Giver, not the Gifts

Ever wonder how men of God can
devote 40 days in Prayer?



1. Wait on God...

Psalms 25:5

Lead me in thy truth, and teach me:
for thou art the God of my salvation;
on thee do I wait all the day.

Ps 62:5 - My soul, wait thou in silence
for God only; For my expectation is
from him.



Best Described in the Hymn, Sweet Hour of Prayer

Sweet hour of prayer! sweet hour of prayer!

The joys I feel, the bliss I share
Of those whose anxious spirits burn
With strong desires for thy return!

With such I hasten to the place
Where God my Savior shows his face,
And gladly take my station there,
And wait for thee, sweet hour of prayer!



Wait on God...

Away from hustle and bustle

Luke 6:12 And it came to pass in those days, that he went out into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God.

Just to be there with God



2. Watch in Prayer...

Mark 14:38 Watch ye and pray,
lest ye enter into temptation.

The spirit truly is ready,
but the flesh is weak.

Too many Christians are in cruise
mode - drifting



2. Watch in Prayer...

2 Corinthians 10:5 Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ

Matthew 6:33 But seek ye first his kingdom, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.



3. Walk with God

Psalms 26:2

Examine me, O LORD, and prove me;
try my reins and my heart.

2 Corinthians 13:5

Examine yourselves, whether ye be in
the faith; prove your own selves. Know
ye not your own selves, how that
Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be
reprobates?



3. Walk with God...

Missions Reports?

Daily Reports!

Philippians 3:13-14 Brethren, I could not myself yet to have laid hold: but one thing I do, forgetting the things which are behind, and stretching forward to the things which are before, I press on toward the goal unto the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.



Grow in Prayerfulness in 2010 with the 3 Ws

Wait on the Lord

Watch in Prayer

Walk with God



Grow in Prayerfulness in 2010

Like a Parent with a Child

**Something wrong if Child only
Asks**

Seek, Spend Time, Share

