

Understanding **PRAYER**



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LESSON ONE

WHAT IS PRAYER?

INTRODUCTION

Among humanity, the Word prayer is not uncommon. Pagans and religious people across all forms of faith (regardless of how bizarre such *faiths* are) all say a form of prayer to whatever god they worship (see Jonah 1:5, ESV). However, we who worship the only true God [1Jn.5:20] must learn by experience what it means to pray.

The misconception of what prayer is has left a large number of people in the church of God not only ignorant but also critically immature in their Christian lives. What prayer means and understanding every detail of its meaning is what we will trust the Lord to unveil to us by the help of the Holy Spirit in this particular study. We pray that the understanding of the meaning of prayer will make a difference in your life in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Main Text:Ps.116:1-2

Prayer is talking to God our father, based on His Word, over all issues of life because the redeemed man is next to Him in position and in power.

1. Prayer is conversing or communicating with God our father.Jer.33:3, Jer.29:11-13, Isa.55:8-9 [TLB, GNB], Ex.25:22, Ex.33:9, 11; Gen.18:17-33, Ps.62:8, Ps.42:6.

a.What is communication?

It is the process of interaction between two people (in this case, man and God) where they both express their feelings, views, opinions, perspectives and thoughts to each other. A common misconception among Christians is the belief that prayer is a *one-way* activity. A single person cannot have a conversation. Some of the scriptures above show two people conversing. In true prayer, both God and man participate.

Many a time, we treat God like a dead, non-existent and impersonal idol. We state our grievances, make our petitions, offer our praises and we are off on our way, without waiting for Him to respond to us. Prayer for most of us is like a person who picks up his phone but starts talking without even dialling any number! Most of us are not even sure of *whom* we are talking to...

When we understand prayer as a two-way conversation, we will remain there in His presence with our bibles wide open after talking to Him for a while and He will tell us His own views and show us His wisdom as far as the issue is concerned. This works in every case without exception because God is a living person [Jer.10:10].

Are you communicating with God?

b. Who is God? Isa.44:6, 8; Isa. 45:21-22, Isa.46:5, 9; Col.1:16, Neh.9:6, Ps.33:6, Acts17:24. God is the eternal Supreme Being who created everything that exists. This may seem like a funny question to those who presume they know but if you will humbly think about this again...imagine how wonderful it is for us that we have an opportunity to relate personally and intimately with the Most High, the very person who created everything in existence [Deut.4:7]!

c. Why is He referred to as our Father?

God wants to relate with us as our father and he wants us to relate with Him as His children [Jer.3:19 MSG, NLT, Jn.1:12, 2Cor.6:18], not as a mere religious term but as a literal fact. Some of the reasons are briefly explained below:

i. That is who He really is! Gen.1:26-27 [TLB, GNB, NLT, ERV], Gen.5:1, Lk.3:38, Jn.1:12-13. It is clear from the Bible that out of all the creation, only man—the pinnacle of creation, was made “...like his maker...”, only him was made “...like God” (Gen.1:26-27 TLB). God is really our father. Even before the fall, this was the purpose of God for us [to relate with us as His family...thus when you become born again, what you begin to experience daily [as far as heaven is concerned] is the fact that you are now God’s very own child.]

ii. His eternal purpose is to be a father with a family of His own. Eph.1:5 [NLT, TLB, GNB, NIV, ERV, AMP], Rom.8:15, 2Cor.6:18, Rom.8:28-29, Gal.4:4-7 [AMP], Gal.3:26.

Our Father’s utmost desire is to have His own family that will reign and rule over every created thing that He made. This was the plan in eternity past and is still the plan today [Gen.1:26-27; Rom.5:17; Rev.5:10]. By engaging in prayer [for instance], we are taking our place as God’s very own children and members of the Supreme Royal Family.

Man was created to dominate everything except another human. All principalities, powers, rulers of darkness, evil spirits, and every other created

thing, elect and just angels, animal life, plants, planets etc are placed under God's man [See Eph.2:6-7, Eph.1:21; Psa.8:6, Heb.2:6-8]. As we take our place here on earth, we are ruling on behalf of Our Father in heaven and that gives Him great pleasure.

(iii) His will is to relate with every man as their Father.

Jer.3:4; Heb.1:5, 13-14; Heb.2:5, Rom.8:15-16; Gal.1:4; 1John 3:1-2

This is because there was a plan in the mind of God before He made every man and woman. That pre-ordained plan of God is the purpose for which that person is expected to live; but it is absolutely impossible to fulfil God's purpose except there is a family relationship between God and man...

2. This communication must be based on God's Word

Our prayer lives can NEVER be effective except we agree with God our Father to view and interpret whatever we are going through via His own Word. But why is this so? Why can't prayer be based on our own perceptions, feelings and opinions?

Isn't praying according to our own views and not God's Word the main reason why most of our prayers go unanswered? [James 4:3]

a. Why must our prayers be based on God's Word?

(i) God's Word is God's view of all things.

Isa.55:8-11; Isa.14:24, 27; Heb.4:12

When prayer is based on God's view, both God and His children [men] are in agreement; thus, receiving answers to that prayer is inevitable. Most of the problems we encounter as far as receiving answers to our prayers is concerned is based on the fact that we come to God, trying to maintain our own limited, misguided, wrong and short-sighted perspectives and we are trying to force God into this little box while we forget that He is boundless in might and completely unstoppable [Isa.55:8-9]. God's word is God's view of all things... What views do you hold - yours or His? Those who mentally assent to God's Word but don't do it are not different from wicked unbelievers. Who are you?

(ii) God's Word is the whole Truth. 2Sam.7:28; Deut. 32:4; Psa.33:4; Exo.34:6; Num.23:19 [GNB]; Rom.3:4 [TLB, NLT, ERV, GNB]. Apart from

God's Word being His view, another reason why acceptable prayer must be based on God's Word is because The Word is the whole truth. Although everyone else in the world is a liar, God is not.

His word will always prove true and right – regardless of who or what questions them. It will always overcome circumstances, tradition, philosophy, human wisdom, incurable diseases and every hopeless condition [Heb.4:12]. Most of the circumstances that come our way daily are events and happenings carefully prepared by the wicked spirits who daily war against us.

They are all masters of deception and they will do all they can in order to convince us that God's Word is not true. Never forget the fact that they hate the truth. This is because the truth reveals them as they all are: weak, impotent, powerless, defenseless, dethroned and defeated – as far as God's children are concerned!

They also cannot endure the truth because once a man insists on the truth of God's Word, whatever devil [or demons] in charge of that issue will have to give way because in reality and in truth, they are no longer powerful over any human being who lives by faith in God alone [Luke 10:18-19].

(iii) God's Word has irresistible power. Heb.4:12; Isa.14:24, 27; Rev.19:11-16, 19-21; Jer.5:14; 23:29; Ezek.37:7; Acts 19:20. The Word of God has irresistible power because it is supreme and irrevocable; thus, praying according to the Word is bringing the supreme law into the scene [or in our favour] as we face circumstances of life.

Also, we must understand that God's Word is not like ours... His Word is a Spirit being – and that Spirit is Jesus Christ, **The Word of God** [See John 1:1-3, 14; 1John 1:1-2 TLB, AMP, NLT; Rev.19:13]. We pray according to The Word, who [since He is a person] has power to consume all the hosts of hell, he is powerful enough to break adamant circumstances like a hammer breaks rocks into pieces. Since in the three realms of existence [the heavens, the earth and under the earth] He is the supreme Lord, whose authority cannot be questioned and whose power cannot be confronted [Phil.2:10-11, Isa.43:13, Prov.21:30 GNB, NIV, CEV].

This same Word gives life [God's type of life] to whoever has been given up as dead. When we pray according to the Word, the resurrection power in the Word is potent and faithful enough to completely bring to life whatever has died in us.

While the devil and his demons will like to make false claims that whatever is dead in our lives remains dead, He who has the power of life, Jesus the Christ will cause this *resurrection power* to restore us and there is nothing powerless Satan can do against our Master!

3. Communication with our Father can be over all issues.

For ages, the church has not met the heart cry of God – while many will do everything to serve Him while they see Him as God, very few will serve Him as their own Father. We reach the height of revelation when you and I grasp the depth of the truth that God is our Father and we begin relating with Him as such...

Why we can communicate with God over all issues

(i) God wants to relate with us intimately. Deut.4:7 [NKJV], Psa.145:18, Matt.11:28-30, 1Jn.2:27. He desires to be the closest person to us throughout our lifetime. God does not expect us to be *embarrassed* when discussing even seemingly unimportant things [like ‘Lord, teach me how to cook, or dress] with Him. The whole essence of fellowship and communion is intimate sharing, friendship and relationship. You will be surprised that God wants to relate with us deeper and more intensely than we want to relate with Him!

(ii) He wants to show us that He cares for us on every level. Matt.7:7-11; Matt.11:28; Phil.4:6; 1Pet.5:8; Matt.6:25-32. Our Father wants to reveal to us that apart from His desire to relate with us intimately, no one else genuinely care about us as He does. He cares at every level. Whether what we are going through is an emotional, spiritual, psychological, financial or physiological problem; He sticks closer than our closest families. He even told us to load all our problems on Him so that we no longer need to bear them!

(iii) Nothing is too little or too much for us to share with Him. 1Pet.5:8.

None of our problems and challenges is so insignificant to escape His probing eyes. If the issue matter to us and bothers us [no matter how little] He is interested in it. Of course, we should realize that no issue or challenge or problem can be so big that our Father will not be able to handle it since nothing is too difficult or impossible for Him [see Luke 1:37]. This is the sole reason why we must be able to confident in our Father and rejoice in the fact that we don’t have a High Priest who cannot be touched by the feelings of our infirmities, challenges, trials and troubles! Instead, we have a God and a Christ

who feels the exact thing that we feel and who will do everything to see us through. Will you cast your cares upon Him today?

4. Communication with the Father is possible because man is next to Him.

Why and how is man next to God? Man is next to God because we are His children and His princes. No one else in all creation has the privilege and access that man has to God. Once we are in Christ, you and I are next to God in two principal ways:

(i) In Position. Eph.2:5-6; Eph.1:21; John 3:3; 3:7; 3:31; Rev.5:10; Rev.12:5-12. The sole reason why our Lord Jesus had to conquer hell and the Dark Kingdom was not because they have more power [or any power at all] against God's heavenly government; rather, it was because God wanted to restore humanity back to His original position in the kingdom of God – we are now kings, who rule the earth for God our Father and for Jesus, our coming King of kings and Lord of lords! The redeemed man is seated in Jesus Christ at the right hand of God – the very supreme council that rules and reigns irresistibly over the whole universe! Every saint is now far above all principality, all power, all might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in the world and age to come. We are now ambassadors of heaven [2Cor.5:20]. We have Spiritual Diplomatic Immunity! We are now untouchable!

(ii) In Power. Eph.2:5-6; Eph.1:21; Acts 1:8; 1John 4:4; Luke 9:1-2; 10:19

Communication with our Father is possible because we are now next to Him in power. Whatever we say is what we will see. We now have the keys [i.e. The Authority] of the Kingdom! If we bind ANYTHING on earth, it will be bound in heaven and if loose ANYTHING on earth, it will be loosed in heaven. [See Matt.18:18 AMP]

The devil and his dark kingdom know this as a certain fact. They know they are defeated and that in Christ, we are far, far above and superior to them in might, fore, dominion, and authority. This is why they will do anything to make sure

we remain ignorant of the truth – for it is only when we are ignorant that they can have influence over our lives.

How much time do you give to personal Bible Study? How much do you value prayer, fasting and God's Word? Several Christians are no threat today [not because they have not been baptized by the power of the Holy Ghost] but simply because they are ignorant and they love being so! What about you? Do you understand what it implies to be next to your Father in position and in power?

Suggested additions:

(iii) We possess God's nature as Spirit Beings. John 4:24; Gen.1:26-27; Gen.2:7; 1Thess.5:23; 1Cor.14:14, 15; 2Pet.1:4 Only a spirit can communicate with a spirit. Since God is a Spirit, the only ground upon which we can communicate with Him is if we are also spirit beings. But the Bible says that we are spirits, made in God's image and likeness. We possess the nature of God as a Spirit. Effective communication with God happens only when we pray with our spirit and not merely from our mind [merely talking with our eyes closed]. Sir, please develop further.

CONCLUSION

Having gone through this study, we believe God that your understanding has increased about the subject of prayer. We trust God that as you begin to view prayer from the perspective of communication [dialogue], the age-long traditional belief that prayer is a monologue will be wiped off your mind in Jesus' name. We are trusting God for you that you will begin to experience a more intense, power-filled prayer life.

PERSONAL ASSESSMENT

1. Before this study, what was your view about prayer?
2. Why did we say prayer is communication? Please explain with some practical details.

3. is God truly our Father? If yes or no, why do you think it is so?
4. Why must prayer be based on God's Word?
5. Why can our communication with God be over all issues?

LESSON TWO

WHY MUST WE PRAY?

INTRODUCTION

When the purpose of a thing is not known, abuse is inevitable [says Myles Munroe]. Prayer becomes a burden and needless exercise to anyone who is oblivious of its original intent and reason.

Several people in our congregations pray today, not even being certain whether God hears them or not. They barely believe in what they are doing, yet they claim they are “praying”. The reasons why we must pray are the issues we will be concerning ourselves with in this study. I pray that the Lord will grant you understanding as you go with us in Jesus’ name. [Amen]

Main Text: Luke 9:1-2

I. Why is prayer a “must”?

You too might have wondered for a very long time now that, ‘why must I pray? Why is it that until I pray, some things just don’t get settled? Why isn’t prayer a mere recreation exercise?’ These reasons are issues we must deeply understand if our praying will have any impact at all.

(1) We must pray because it is our responsibility.

We must pray because it is our duty to determine and dictate what happens in our area of responsibility [i.e. the earth and all created things subjected under man’s dominion]. Gen.1:26-27 [TLB]; James 5:16-18; Luke 9:1-2; Luke 10:19; Matt.10:1; Matt.16:19; Matt.18:18; Psa.8:6-8 [KJV, TLB] Heb.2:7-8 [KJV, TLB, NIV]; Rev.5:10; Rom.5:17; Luke 22:28-29.

The response a motor park tout will get when he stands in the middle of the road, motioning to vehicles to stop will be different from the response a police man will get. Even a police man’s response will be far different from the response an armed soldier will get if he stands in the middle of the road. The motorists can hit and kill the tout and there will be no problem, they can even hit the policeman and there will be little problem but you dare not touch a

soldier! We must remember that we are soldiers of Jesus – and soldiers are autocratic people – people who dictate and issue commands. [2Tim.2:3]

It is only by praying that we can determine and dictate [according to God's Word] what happens in our personal lives, our homes, our communities, our nations and our world – and God will hold us responsible for whatever happens in all these places. We are created to be the master of all creation. God made us gods [Gen.1:26-27 TLB; Psa.82:6] It is our responsibility to pray, dictate and determine what happens in the air, on earth, and under the depths of the seas. All these locations are bases and kingdoms of the devil all of which we have absolute authority over. [Luke 9:1-2; 10:19; Matt.10:1; Eph.2:6; Eph.1:21]

(2) We must pray because it is our privilege. This is the privilege of access. Access to God is an awesome privilege. Even if you don't know the President of Nigeria, the President of the African Union, the President of America or the secretary General of the U.N.; you can rejoice once you know God and have access to Him– because He is the Most High, the Highest and Most Important Dignitary who is supreme over the whole universe! Rom.5:1-2 [TLB, KJV]; Heb.4:16 [NKJV, GNB, AMP]; Deut.4:7; Matt.7:7-11; Matt.11:28-29; Isa.41:10-13; Isa.45:1-2; Heb.13:6; Matt.21:22; Isa.65:24; Dan.9:20-23; Dan.10:12; Luke 1:13; Luke 11:9-13; 2Chron.18:31; 2Kgs.6:18.

What is a privilege?

It is an advantage or an opportunity opened to you and yet closed to other people. Only Christians have the privilege of access to God by which they can approach Him by themselves and they will receive His absolute audience with complete attention and concentration! Your problem is not because you don't have "connections" in high places. Your sole problem is that your ignorance and unbelief has disconnected you from God, Most High; the "Connector"!

Imagine how Esther, Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego and Joseph all rose to positions of prominence yet they were slaves and captives in those foreign lands! How could a nonentity like Gideon and a teenager like David become Generals of the army of an entire nation without an initial career or even training as army officers? All these are the things God can do because those people had the privilege of access to God even though they didn't know the

“*big man*” in charge. Who you need to know is the Supremely “Big God” who has integrity, ability, wisdom, compassion, strength and mercy and who in every way CANNOT be compared to any or every big man that you know!

We have the highest privilege because we personally know and relate with the Highest Being – God – and He is our Father! Brethren, this should birth a great love and hunger to relate with God in you!

(3) We must pray because prayer is a necessity.

We must understand that we are at war. That age-long war between the kingdom of God and that of the devil is still on. It may surprise you that the sole purpose of the Dark Kingdom is to oppose the Christian because we are the ones who have power and authority over them – and because the establishment of God’s on earth signifies the seal of the eternal doom and perdition of Satan and everyone who belongs to his kingdom. Eph.6:10-18; Luke 9:1-2; 10:17-19; Matt.16:17; Eph.2:6; 1:21; John 1:5; John 10:10; Matt.26:41; 1Pet.5:7-8; 1Cor.10:12; 2Sam.22:4; Psa.25:19; Psa.38:12; Psa.38:19; Psa.71:10; Psa.94:21; Psa.118:13; Psa.140:4; Luke 22:31-32.

Every second, minute, hour, day, week, month and year, all the dark kingdom bother themselves about is how to bring each of us down and how to further resist God’s kingdom. Day in, day out, they plot, plan and set traps of temptations and trials in order to capture us [especially in secret] and discredit us before God. The only way to combat them effectively is to pray at every hour of temptation. It is necessary to pray always because of this present conflict so that we will not become casualties of war right on the battle field or become a prisoner to destructive passions or influences. We don’t only need to watch our lives; we equally need to pray... Prayer should be the result and completion of every period of watching for without constantly watching our lives, we will never know how desperately in need of grace we are! It is only by praying that we are delivered from the cruel hatred of the enemy. May God grant you understanding. [Amen]

4. We pray because God is omniscient, omnipresent and omnipotent.

a. God is Omniscient

b. God is Omnipresent

c. God is Omnipotent

i. He is the highest in position

ii. He is the highest in possession

iii. He is the highest in power

5. We pray because human effort, connection and power cannot achieve beyond what is humanly possible, but prayer can!

II. The secret of a ‘worry-free’ life: Talking to God about all things.

All things include *all things*. Both small and great,

a. Why talk to God about all things?

i. I am expected to.

ii. All I need is already provided

iii. He wants to help and assist me in all things

b. Learning to talk to God about all things

i. I must know that God is just a call away.

ii. An ever growing revelation of His love and for me and who He is will propel me.

iii. His abilities [He is omniscient, omnipresent and omnipotent] qualify Him as the best person to discuss all things with.

CONCLUSION

We believe that by the grace of God, you have been able to see why prayer is a “must” and why we are required to pray. The Christian who does not pray is like a powerful and authoritative person who refuses to use his illegal rights and powers. Unless you pray [and until you do], the devil will continue to have unhindered access into your life and everything that concerns you!

PERSONAL ASSESSMENT

1. Based on your understanding of this study, why must we pray?
2. What do you understand by our saying that Prayer is our Privilege?
3. Share with us, using personal experiences, how do you know that you have a privilege of access before God?
4. Why is prayer a necessity? Give us personal reasons and share experiences on why you are convinced that this is so.

LESSON THREE

HOW TO PRAY

INTRODUCTION

What we must first of all understand is that “How to pray” [as taught in the Holy Scriptures and expounded here] is not an issue of recitation, rather it is a pattern, a foundation and the principle which each of us can and should [and must] build our prayer lives upon if it will be acceptable before God.

While we are all different individuals, we must never be under any illusion that we relate with the same God [even though He relates with each of us differently]. In this study, we will be learning directly from the mouth of the Master – Our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ, how he taught us to pray. I pray God you will be able to see these things as clearly as the Master will have you see it in Jesus’ name. [Amen]

Main Text: Matthew 6:9

1. Jesus taught us how “NOT” to pray and How to pray. Matt.6:5-8.

Since the Lord Jesus is our perfect pattern and example in all things, we will be taking a very serious look at what He said about both how not to pray and how to pray.

a. How not to pray

(i.) Don’t pray like a hypocrite. Matt.6:5

A hypocrite is a self-righteous person who pretends to be godly in public but is actually rotten and utterly ungodly in secret [See Matt.7:6; Matt.22:27-28].

Hypocrites love to pray in public places where people can see them and consider them as pious. When it is time to pray, their voices are the loudest and they are the ones who show the most emotions. Though they are often eager to do spiritual exercises and prayer in public, they do none of these in their own homes. Brother, are you too a hypocrite?

(ii) Don't repeat or recite your prayers. Matt.6:7-8 [NLT]; Ecc1.5:2; 1Kgs.18:26, 29. There are people who pray, repeating or reciting the same words over and over again – thinking prayer is answered because they keep repeating the Word. If you too are a parent and your child who needs school fees come to you and keep saying “Give me! Give me!” over and over again, how will you feel? That is exactly how God feels when we merely repeat what we are saying. Vain repetition clogs communication. God is not an idol... He wants to talk to you! Please know this, God is not deaf! He clearly hears you always.

b. How to pray. Matt.6:9 [NKJV]

The Lord Jesus said “... **In this manner, therefore pray...**”; Thus, we can conclude that there is a manner, a way, a pattern in which we are to pray. According to the Word of our Master, this is now what we will turn our attention to.

(i) Come boldly, relate with God as His child. Matt.6:9, Matt.7:11, Isa.63:16; Jer.3:4; Rom.8:15-16 [TLB]; 1John 3:1-2. The Lord taught us the manner in which we should pray, so why do you want to pray in another manner and yet expect result? The Lord said how to pray to God is to address Him as Our Father. Brother, Sister, who is He to you?

Do you know that if we have a genuine revelation of what it means that God is our Father, not only will our prayer lives experience an absolute change, but our entire Christian life will also take a new turn. You don't need to consciously exercise faith when you are asking your limitless Father who absolutely loves you for anything. What you need is unconscious faith! This is a matured realm in which you are completely confident in your Father's boundless ability, His overwhelming goodness and complete willingness to meet your needs! At this level, your faith in God is based on your own faith [not on someone else's faith], your faith in Him is established and flourishing on your own personal revelation, understanding and encounter that God is your Father!

If you are a Father, will you like to have a child who treats you like his/her headmaster? But for a long time now, your “official” attitude in the prayer room has turned God to a sort God “headmaster” in your own heart! The Bible

admonishes us in Romans 8:15-16 to BEHAVE like God's very own children! Many times, we have religiously believed that God is our Father, but we actually behave like destitutes and orphans, always worried and ever looking troubled! If you are sure you are a child of God, then act like one - while talking to Him!

(ii) Pray to God in the name of Jesus. John 16:23-24

The proper way to pray is to approach the Father in the name of Jesus. It is important for each of us to know that the statement "in Jesus name..." is not a conjunction used in prayer, rather it carries more weight and life beyond that. Why must we pray in Jesus' name? What does it mean?

1. It means we are coming to God on the ground of all that Jesus has achieved on our behalf. When you pray in Jesus' name, God CANNOT refuse you [Jn.16:23-24]; this is because Jesus is our Saviour, Redeemer, Substitute, Righteousness, Wisdom, Mediator, Advocate, Intercessor, and High Priest. Matt.1:21; Rom.10:9; 2Cor.5:18-19, 21 [AMP, GNB, ERV, NLT, NLT, TLB]; Rom.5:6-11 [TLB, AMP]; John 15:13; Isa.53:5, 11; 1cor.15:3; Gal.3:13; Heb.2:9; Jn.3:14-15; Acts 4:12; Eph.2:18; 1Tim.2:5 [TLB, NLT, ERV, KJV]; Heb.9:15 [AMP, TLB]

When we stand before God in the name of Jesus, we are standing based on His imputed righteousness [i.e. His own righteousness credited to our account]. God will listen to us when we come into His presence with the full understanding that our access to God is through our faith in all that Jesus has done for us.

2. It means we are praying as His substitute and Authorized representative. Col.3:17 [TLB, NLT]; Jn.16:23-24; Jn.15:16; Jn.16:26; Acts 9:27, 29; 1Jn.4:17; Mark 16:17. Jesus said we are to live our lives on earth as His own representatives. Dare I say to you that when we come to God in prayer, it is as if Christ Himself is here praying those same words [because we are given the power of attorney – the authority to act in another person's stead]. Can Jesus pray and God will refuse Him an answer? Of course you know that is impossible. He said if we want our needs met or if we need god's answer on any

issue, all we need do is to come in His place [i.e. as His substitute], present our case and God will answer. Up till this point, He said we've not prayed like that, but if we pray now, He said we will receive [See. Jn.16:23-24]. Bless God Jesus is the Truth!

3. It means we are praying by His Omnipotent authority and power.

Phil.2:9-11; Matt.28:18; Mark 16:17; Col.2:10 [AMP]; Acts 3:6; Acts 4:10; 1Cor.5:4. While the first two points relate with our communication with God, this point focuses on using the name of Jesus in dealing with the Dark Kingdom. Jesus is the conqueror of all hell, thus at the mention of His name, Satan and his entire kingdom must bow! Rev.5:13; Jn.13:13; Acts 2:36. None of them can face Him and all of them put together are too little for Him to be threatened by. His name on your lips as a holy person brings all of heaven's power and resources at your command!

(iii) Always pray in faith.

Concise summary on praying step-by-step

1. Begin with thanksgiving
2. Judge yourself [confess your sins: e.g. Sins of righteous people like Laziness, procrastination, overtalking, etc]
3. Bring your petitions
4. Wrap it all with thanksgiving.