

**REACH OUT AND TOUCH PRISON MINISTRY**  
**BIBLE STUDY - LESSON #2**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **I.D.#** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**THE IMPORTANCE OF PRAYER**

**PRAYER:** An act of talking with God as in confession, praise, requests or thanksgiving

**MEMORY VERSE:** Pray without ceasing. (1 Thessalonians 5:17)

1) What are the 4 things in the following Scripture that we need to do for God to answer our prayers? (2 Chronicles 7:14)

1) \_\_\_\_\_ 2) \_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_ 4) \_\_\_\_\_

2) What does Matthew 6:33 tells us we must do first? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3) What are 3 main ingredients of prayer that Jesus taught his Disciples in Mark 11:22-26:

1) \_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_

4) How often should we pray? Luke 18:1 and 1 Thessalonians 5:17

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5) Read John 15:5-17 and explain what we must do to guarantee our prayers will be answered: (5 things)

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ 2) \_\_\_\_\_

(3) \_\_\_\_\_ 4) \_\_\_\_\_

(5) \_\_\_\_\_

6) Explain 1 John 5:14, 15 in your own words: \_\_\_\_\_

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7) What does Psalm 66:18 teach us about why our prayers will not be answered?

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8) Name a few things that David prayed for after he committed a crime? (Psalm 51)

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9) List the names of the persons who prayed in the following verses:

Esther 4:15, 16 _____	Jonah 2:1-10 _____
Judges 16:21-30 _____	Acts 12:3 _____
Daniel 6:10 _____	Luke 22:39-46 _____

10) Prayer is even more powerful when it is done with Fasting (choose 1 day a week not to eat from 6Am to 12 Noon or 6PM if not on medication) Read 2 Chronicles 20:1-4. What did the people do? \_\_\_\_\_

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Are there any questions or struggles that you have that you would like to share with us to pray for you? Whatever is shared with us will be kept in strict confidence.

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**COMPLETE ALL QUESTIONS AND RETURN IN THE ENVELOPE ATTACHED OR MAIL TO:**  
**REACH OUT AND TOUCH PRISON MINISTRY, P.O. Box 120249, ST. ALBANS, NY 11412**

# REACH OUT AND TOUCH PRISON MINISTRY

## BIBLE STUDY - LESSON #2

### THE IMPORTANCE OF PRAYER

#### I. WHAT IS PRAYER

- 1) Prayer is TALKING with God. It is the avenue by which we talk to God and listen to God
- 2) Prayer is GOD and YOU; near, together, sharing, conversing; Fellowship with God
- 3) Prayer should become a HABIT
- 4) Prayer is recognizing the PRESENCE of God
- 5) Prayer is man's mean to KNOW God intimately; more than just acquainted with God  
"He knows not God, who knows not how to pray." In other words, if you don't pray, you will never get to know God. (Spending time with a person and reading about that person are two different things.)
- 6) Prayer is laying hold of God's PROMISES  
The Bible is filled from cover to cover with promises available to those who pray
- 7) Prayer is the SOUL on its knees
- 8) Prayer is man's means to TOUCH God's Heart
- 9) Prayer is man's way to understand the PLAN of God for his life
- 10) Prayer is the KEY to miracles
- 11) Prayer is giving God access to OUR NEEDS  
To pray is nothing more than to open the door to our heart giving Jesus access to our needs and permitting Him to exercise His own power in dealing with them.

#### II. WHY SHOULD WE PRAY

- 1) Because The Bible COMMANDS Us
- 2) Because JESUS saw the Necessity (so did the Disciples and the Early Church)
- 3) Because Prayer moves the HAND OF GOD that moves the World
- 4) Because Prayer is the WEAPON that strikes down Satan and breaks the bonds of sin
- 5) Because Prayer is POWER to solve insurmountable problems
- 6) Because Prayer gives us power to touch OTHERS and Bring SALVATION to Others
- 7) Because Prayer is the KEY to bring the HOLY SPIRIT into our lives and the things we do

#### III. HOW SHOULD WE PRAY

- 1) With a Clean Heart:  
Psalm 66:18 – If I hold iniquity (sin) in my heart, the Lord will not hear me
- 2) In Accordance to God's Will  
1 John 5:15 – And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us.
- 3) In JESUS Name  
John 15:16 – That whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it to you.

#### IV. **HOW TO GET RESULTS FROM PRAYER**

- 1) Pray in Faith
- 2) Pray Diligently
- 3) Pray and Fast  
(Fasting changes ordinary praying into powerful praying)
- 4) Pray Specifically
- 5) Pray Unselfishly
- 6) Pray Fervently
- 7) Pray Honestly

#### V. **GOOD HABITS TO DEVELOP**

- 1) Learn to acknowledge God immediately upon rising  
Every Christian should develop a habit of thinking about God as soon as he awakens in the morning, even before he gets out of bed  
  
This allows you to recognize God at the very beginning of the day, before all other activities begin.
- 2) Make specific time for prayer daily
- 3) Select a time free from distraction
- 4) Spend enough time praying to really meet God

#### VI. **BAD HABITS TO AVOID**

- 1) To allow FEELINGS to dictate or determine our Prayers
- 2) To substitute activity for prayers (reading religious materials, listening to music, etc.)

#### VII. **WHAT PRAYER IS NOT**

- 1) Prayer is not coming to God with ulterior motives (to try to "use" God)
- 2) Prayer is not making demands on God
- 3) Prayer is not telling God how to bless us
- 4) Prayer is not telling God when to bless us
- 5) Prayer is not concentration only on what we want

#### VIII. **REASONS WHY PRAYERS ARE NOT ANSWERED:**

There are four basic categories of reasons why your prayers are not answered other than "the sovereignty of God". These are :

- Spiritual sins - doubt, hypocrisy, pride, etc
- Poor relationships - rudeness, unforgiveness, malice, anger, wrath, divisiveness.
- Major unconfessed sin - things categorized as "doing evil" (1 Cor 6:9,10)
- Praying with wrong motives – selfishness (James 1:1-5).

God always has answered and always will answer prayers that are made in faith, trust, and entire dependence upon Him when we ask according to his Will (Word). Sometimes the answer is Yes, Wait, or No. But He ALWAYS answer according to what is BEST for us.