

STUDY NOTES

Review/Discussion Questions: (for use in your own home study or in your home group) Personal review:

Talk about your prayer life? What wrong concepts about prayer have perhaps hindered you?

What have been your best times in prayer? WHY?

What could you do to UNCOMPLICATE your prayers?

Have you considered God as your friend? If not, why not?

What could you do to grow in your friendship with God?

Scripture lessons:

Read Genesis 3 –What are the things God lost?

Read Luke 18:9-14 – What made one man's prayers acceptable and the other unacceptable?

Review words in Eph. 6:18; I Thess. 5:17; James. 5:16b; John 16:24.

Jesus knew the power of short, simple prayers. He speaks about praying these prayers in Matthew 6:7. Long prayers are still OK!

Read these examples of short, power packed prayers:

- By Moses in Exodus 33:13a.
- By Moses in Numbers 12:13b
- By the Psalmist in Psalm 31:9a
- By Elijah in I Kings 17:212b
- By Jabez in I Chronicles 4:10
- By Jesus in Luke 23:44a
- By the Apostle John in 3 John 1:2

Good books on prayer. I highly recommend the top 3:

*How to Pray by Morris Cerullo

*The Power of Simple Prayer by Joyce Meyer

*Supernatural Communications by Rachel Hickson

Experiencing God with Prayer by Madame Guyon

The Believers School of Prayer by Andrew Murray.

God's Shield of Protection by Mike Servello.

The Power of Praying Together by Storme Omartian.

Prayer!

#1 in Series on Prayer

Sunday, October 16, 2011

WRONG CONCEPTS ABOUT PRAYER

Prayer has to follow some rules!

Prayer is boring!

Prayer is always hard work!

Prayer is just filling a time slot!

Prayer is just NOT another meeting!

Prayers must be long and complicated to be effective!

Prayers must be deeply spiritual!

Prayer is based on stirring our emotions.

Prayer is religious!

Prayer is based on a formula!

So the first thing we must be willing to do is _____
all pre-conceived ideas, man-made traditions, and religious ideologies regarding prayer.

THE TRUTH REGARDING PRAYER!

There is NO _____ or right way to pray!

There is NO formula for prayer!

Prayer is _____ about filling a time slot!

Prayer is simply talking to God!

(Having a conversation with your _____)

Prayer is NOT a skill we master;

it is an unfolding relationship we enjoy!

Prayer is all about HOW BIG GOD is and it does not depend on how great or how small we feel we are!

There is NO _____ for Prayer!

Prayer is how we tap into God's unlimited power!

Everything is birthed out of prayer.....begins with prayer!
Prayer is _____!

God's church is called to be a House of Prayer! (Matt. 21:13)
(When the church ceases to pray, she becomes less than she is called to be)

The MOST IMPORTANT KEY to effective prayer is to approach God as your _____!
Good prayer depends on your relationship with God!

John 15:15 – MSG – ***“I’m no longer calling you servants because servants don’t understand what their master is thinking and planning. No, I’ve named you friends because I’ve let you in on everything I’ve heard from the Father.”***

Joyce Meyer says in her book “The Power of Simple Prayer.....how to talk to God about everything, ***“Prayer is much easier than we think. God has not made prayer complicated.”*** We need to _____-COMPLICATE our prayers and our prayer life!

Pastor Bill Johnson says, ***“We get bored in praying because we are praying in our own strength, praying out own prayers, praying our agenda, or our ideas.”***

Turn to Luke 11:5-8

God’s Universal Law Concerning Prayer says _____ who asks in faith receives! Everyone who comes believing will receive.

Heb. 11:6 - NKJ – ***“But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.”***

Hebrews 4:16 – NLT – ***“So let us come boldly (another translation says come with confidence) to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it most.”*** HALLELUJAH!

FRIENDSHIP BREEDS _____!

Rachel Hickson in her book “Supernatural Communications” says, ***“Good prayer is simply about you being relaxed and just being yourself in the place of prayer, confident of your relationship with Him.”***

“We do not need to pray long complicated, deeply spiritual prayers!” “Good prayer has more to do with our heart attitude than our words.”

“We often copy other people’s prayer models and methods and think they will work for us when we should be finding our own style and routine for prayer.”

“Prayer is a lifestyle, not something we put in our schedule to do.”

Instead of asking “Lord teach me to **PRAY!**” Let’s ask,

“Lord, teach **ME** to pray!”

When your relationship with God grows and becomes more intimate, it will just naturally lead to an increasingly vibrant, and more effective prayer life! Joyce Meyer