



Guide to Praying

At its core, prayer is about presence. Before it is asking, it is abiding. Before it is speaking, it is listening. We don't come to God because we have it all together. We come because we don't.

Prayer is how we turn our attention from the noise of the world to the voice of our Father. It is how we slow down enough to recognize that He is already here. God is not waiting for perfect words. He is inviting surrendered hearts.

We don't pray to get something *from* God. We pray to be *with* God. And in being with Him, everything begins to change.

Prayer invites us to step out of distraction and into relationship. It quiets the noise around us and centers our hearts on the presence of Jesus.



Prayer is...

a personal invitation to draw near to God as a Father who welcomes you, not a judge you have to impress.

Hebrews 4:16

learning to listen, trusting that God still leads, convicts, & comforts His people.

John 10:27

daily dependence on God, bringing your burdens before Him.

Philippians 4:6-7



Prayer is not...

a performance where you try to say the right words or sound spiritual enough.

Matthew 6:7-8

a last resort when all else fails, but a first response in every season of life.

Isaiah 58:3-7; Luke 18:9-14

rushed moments squeezed into a day, but an intentional posture of being with God.

Psalms 40:1; James 1:4

Prayer of Intimacy: Prayer is first about being with God, not just bringing things to Him. It's a daily rhythm of drawing near, learning His voice, and walking in relationship with Him. *John 15:1-5*

Prayer of Intercession: Prayer also moves us outward, where we stand in the gap for others and lift their needs before the Lord. As we intercede, we join God in what He is doing in people, places, and situations beyond ourselves. *1 Timothy 2:1*

Parts of Prayer

Whether you're by yourself, in the middle of your normal day, or gathered with other believers, prayer is an invitation to live aware of God's presence.:



Start with Him

Begin by lifting your eyes to who God is and bring Him praise.

Thank Him for His character and attributes, not just His blessings

Read a Psalm or other part of Scripture slowly, reverently, and personally

Worship through music, poetry, or quiet reflection

Psalms 100:4



Surrender to Him

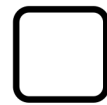
Lay down what you've been holding onto with humble expectation.

Confess sin honestly and receive His grace humbly

Release control of your plans, your future, and your fears

Ask God to shape your desires, not just meet them

Matthew 6:10



Stillness in Him

Don't rush through, spend time peacefully waiting and listening

Sit in soft stillness, even if it feels uncomfortable at first

Ask God what He wants to say, not just what you want Him to say

Write down what He brings to your mind through His Spirit and His Word

John 10:27

Guide to Praying

We believe that prayer is our first response, not our last resort. One way to spend time with God is by dwelling on His word with a central thought of praise. Below are three examples you can use during your time in prayer.

1 Praise God for His patience, kindness, and justice

Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance? But because of your hard and impenitent heart you are storing up wrath for yourself on the day of wrath when God's righteous judgment will be revealed.

Romans 2:4-5

The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.

2 Peter 3:9-10

2 Praise God for His forgiveness and cleansing

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

1 John 1:9-10

Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out, that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus

Acts 3:19-20

3 Praise God for His conviction and way of escape

But if you will not do so, behold, you have sinned against the Lord, and be sure your sin will find you out.

Numbers 32:23

And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment

John 16:8

We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did... We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did.. Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come. Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

1 Corinthians 10:8-13



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