

It starts with **PRAYER**

Prayer guide

The job of every Christian is to pray. Plain and simple. Yet we the "followers", trying to **BE** faithful, want to **DO** more than simply pray. We want to **DO** something important for God; we want to **BE** someone important to Him ... we want to show **OUR** strength and exert **OUR** influence. But that 's not what Jesus said to do. To Jesus prayer is a duty as well as a privilege; a right as well as a responsibility. Many of us pray as a last resort ... when there is nothing else we can do. But Jesus expects us to pray **BEFORE WE DO** anything at all. He wants, and expects us to speak to Him as we would speak to a person right next to you / me (because He is!). Prayer is a conversation with God. Like the conversation we have with the person next to us, He wants us to look and listen for His response (because He does!).

He wants us to pray. Always and about everything. During times of joy, boredom and as well as sorrow. He wants us to **TALK TO** Him, not, **TALK ABOUT** Him.

(Adapted from Prayer: A Holy Occupation, by Oswald Chambers)

But what do I say when I talk to Him? How can I be sure I am praying acceptably? We can do God no greater honor than to ask Him for the hard things and then trust that He will hear us. God's promise to hear our prayers does not mean, of course, that He will give us anything we ask. But He will reply. His answers, at a minimum, are "Yes, No, or Not now."

But in some cases, He replies with amazingly specific detail.

TOPICS AND PEOPLE TO LIFT UP IN PRAYER:

- Trust in God (Psalm 9:10/ 62:8)
- Broken hearts (Psalm 147:3)
- Forgiveness of Sins (Ephesians 1:7-8)
- Removal of Anger (Psalm 4:4/ 142:2)
- Windwood Church (Colossians 3:15)
- Strength in Temptation (1 Corinthians 10:13)
- Pastors and Staff (1 Peter 5:1-4)
- Job/ Co-Worker (Colossians 3:23)
- Forgive others (Colossians 3:13)
- Political Leaders (1 Tim 2:1-2)
- Patience (Psalm 37:7-9)
- Courage to Witness (Luke 4:18/ Romans 1:16)
- God's Protection (Psalm 121)
- Caretakers (Isaiah 40:31)
- Self-control (1 Corinthians 6:12)
- Students (Psalm 127:4-5/ 1 Tim 4:12)
- Wisdom (Isaiah 30:21/ James 1:5)
- The lost (Ezekiel 26:36)
- Health/ Healing (Jeremiah 17:14)

PARTNERS IN MINISTRY

- Assistance Ministries
- Habitat for Humanity
- TOMAGWA
- Shield Bearers
- Hope Center
- Boys and Girls Country

GLOBAL MISSIONARIES

- Micheal and Henrietta Edwards
- WATS
- Johnson Family in Budapest
- Witnessing Ministries of Christ & Dalit Children
- Jones Family in NYC

Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective." (Jas 5:16)

WHAT DOES JESUS SAY ABOUT PRAYER?

- Pray without a desire to be seen (Matt 6:5-6)
- Reconcile with others before praying (Matt 5:23-24)
- Pray before any important decision (Luke 6:12-13)
- Do not pray with empty (meaningless) phrases (Matt 6:7)

**- BE BOLD AND BELIEVE GOD WILL ANSWER YOUR PRAYER
(MARK 11:24)**

This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. ... whatever we ask we know that we have what we have asked of Him." (1 Jn 5:15)