



More passages on prayer / parables:

- Philippians 4
- 1 Thessalonians 3
- Matthew 6-7
- Genesis 18
- Ephesians 6
- The book of Psalms

Recommended Reading: Don Carson's *A Call to Spiritual Reformation* / Piper's, *Pleasures of God*, Ch. 8.

Jump Start Class Schedule

1. Saved by God
2. Living by God's Ways
3. Listening to God
4. *Talking to God*
5. Meeting with God's Family
6. Meeting the World
7. Living in Hope

Questions, Comments, Suggestions?

Core Seminars—Jump Start **Class 4: Talking to God**

I. Introduction

Class Objective:

- What is prayer?
- Why should we pray?

II. How Should We Pray

Luke 11:1-13

A. The Lord's prayer (1-4)

Our Father...

Hallowed be your name...

Your kingdom come...

Give us each day our daily bread...

“Prayer is his (God’s) delight because it shows the reaches of our poverty and the riches of his grace. Prayer is that wonderful transaction where the wealth of God’s glory is magnified and the wants of our soul are satisfied.” (John Piper, Pleasures of God, Ch. 8, pg. 216)

Forgive us for we forgive others...

Puritan Thomas Watson says, “It [our forgiving others] is not a cause of God’s forgiving us, but a sign. We need not climb up into heaven to see whether our sins are forgiven: let us look into our hearts, and see if we can forgive others. If we can, we need not doubt but God has forgiven us. Our loving others is the reflection of God’s love to us.”

Lead us not into temptation...

Principles of Prayer:

1. Prayer is communion with God, who has authority over us and yet is also intimate.
2. It is to be done with God’s glory and purposes foremost in our hearts and minds.
3. It is an expression of our dependence upon and trust in God to meet our needs and to protect us from evil.
4. It is to be done in humility, recognizing our need for forgiveness.

A - Adoration
C - Confession
T - Thanksgiving
S - Supplication

B. Parable of the midnight visitor (5-13)

What does this parable teach us about how to approach God in prayer?

Does this mean God gives us everything we want?

What gift should we value above all else?

III. Conclusion

Prayer is a privilege where we convene with the one and only holy God. We are to give praise and honor to our creator and Lord as we come humbly before him seeking his perfect will and not our own. From the parable we see that we ought to approach God boldly in prayer and that we are to be persistent in asking, seeking, and knocking for God will answer our prayers. He responds not begrudgingly like the man in the parable, but like a gracious Father who desires to give his children the best of gifts, the greatest being the Holy Spirit.

IV Practical Prayer Suggestions