



THE PURPOSE OF PRAYER

May 10 & 11, 2025

John 15:16b (NIV)

... and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you.

The 3 Most Common Reasons Christians Don't Pray:

- We don't know _____.
- We don't have _____.
- We don't see anything _____.

Prayer is not about commanding God to align His will with ours. It's about us aligning our hearts and will with His.

Prayer is God's _____.

John 14-16:

___ times Jesus talks about prayer.

4 PRIMARY PURPOSES FOR PRAYER:

1

Prayer is an act of _____.

- The biggest problem in prayer is _____. (*self-sufficiency*)

"The more I pray, the more I depend on God.

The less I pray, the less I depend on God."

John 15:5-7 (NIV)

I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

- The biggest power in prayer is _____. (*on God*)

2

Prayer is an act of _____.

- The biggest problems in life come from a _____ of communication.
- The biggest power in prayer is our _____ with God.

John 15:15-16 (NIV)

I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you.

3

Prayer is an act of _____.
(to make a request)

Philippians 4:6-7 (ESV)

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

John 16:23-24 (NIV)

In that day you will no longer ask me anything. Very truly I tell you, my Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete.

- The biggest problem is my _____. (self-made)
- The biggest power is God's _____.

God's chosen method of meeting my needs is through _____.

God will only do _____ based on whether or not we pray.

James 4:2 (NLT)

You want what you don't have, so you scheme and kill to get it. You are jealous of what others have, but you can't get it, so you fight and wage war to take it away from them. Yet you don't have what you want because you don't ask God for it.

_____ in the New Testament we are commanded to ask God in prayer.

Psalms 145:19 (TLB)

He fulfills the desires of those who reverence and trust him; he hears their cries for help and rescues them.

Matthew 7:9-11 (NIV)

Which of you, if your son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!

TRIANGLE OF PRAYER (all parts are equal and work together)

- **Ask your Heavenly _____ — Show me that I'm doing all I can to support the work of Grace.**
- **In the name of _____ — I ask in Your name that You bring the \$2 million miraculously.**
- **By the power of the _____ — Show me if there's anything in my life that I have not surrendered to You that may be impeding Your work in our ministry.**

4

Prayer is an act of _____.

- **The biggest problem is my _____.**
- **The biggest power is my _____.**

John 14:12 (NIV)

Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father.

How can we possibly do greater works than Jesus?

John 14:13-14 (NIV)

And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

By asking in the name of _____!

Proverbs 21:1 (NIV)

In the Lord's hand the king's heart is a stream of water that he channels toward all who please him.

What area of your life is still lacking because you've never invited God to do a great work there? Be specific.

Romans 10:13 (NIV)

...for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."



THE PURPOSE OF PRAYER

May 10 & 11, 2025

John 15:16b (NIV)

... and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you.

The 3 Most Common Reasons Christians Don't Pray:

- We don't know how.
- We don't have time.
- We don't see anything happen.

Prayer is not about commanding God to align His will with ours. It's about us aligning our hearts and will with His.

Prayer is God's idea.

John 14-16:

7 times Jesus talks about prayer.

4 PRIMARY PURPOSES FOR PRAYER:

1

Prayer is an act of dedication.

- The biggest problem in prayer is pride. (*self-sufficiency*)

"The more I pray, the more I depend on God.

The less I pray, the less I depend on God."

John 15:5-7 (NIV)

I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

- The biggest power in prayer is dependence. (*on God*)

2

Prayer is an act of communication.

- The biggest problems in life come from a lack of communication.
- The biggest power in prayer is our relationship with God.

John 15:15-16 (NIV)

I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you.

3

Prayer is an act of supplication. *(to make a request)*

Philippians 4:6-7 (ESV)

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

John 16:23-24 (NIV)

In that day you will no longer ask me anything. Very truly I tell you, my Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete.

- The biggest problem is my materialism. *(self-made)*
- The biggest power is God's provisions.

God's chosen method of meeting my needs is through prayer.

God will only do certain things based on whether or not we pray.

James 4:2 (NLT)

You want what you don't have, so you scheme and kill to get it. You are jealous of what others have, but you can't get it, so you fight and wage war to take it away from them. Yet you don't have what you want because you don't ask God for it.

20 times in the New Testament we are commanded to ask God in prayer.

Psalms 145:19 (TLB)

He fulfills the desires of those who reverence and trust him; he hears their cries for help and rescues them.

Matthew 7:9-11 (NIV)

Which of you, if your son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!

TRIANGLE OF PRAYER (all parts are equal and work together)

- **Ask your Heavenly Father — Show me that I'm doing all I can to support the work of Grace.**
- **In the name of Jesus — I ask in Your name that You bring the \$2 million miraculously.**
- **By the power of the Holy Spirit — Show me if there's anything in my life that I have not surrendered to You that may be impeding Your work in our ministry.**

4

Prayer is an act of cooperation.

The biggest problem is my selfishness.

The biggest power is my salvation.

John 14:12 (NIV)

Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father.

How can we possibly do greater works than Jesus?

John 14:13-14 (NIV)

And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

By asking in the name of Jesus!

Proverbs 21:1 (NIV)

In the Lord's hand the king's heart is a stream of water that he channels toward all who please him.

What area of your life is still lacking because you've never invited God to do a great work there? Be specific.

Romans 10:13 (NIV)

...for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."