



“The Only Way to Pray” part 1 Oct 27, 2024

I. **James 5:13-18**

A. The First Thing...The Always Thing

1. What you do “First” is what you give authority and power to...
 - When a storm, trial, or distraction comes along...what should be the first thing a believer does? Pray!
 - The first thing should NEVER be to talk about it, but pray over it!
 - It is surprising to say, but I have asked many times when people have come to me for guidance...“*What has God said about this to you in prayer?*” – And their responses are typically the same: either, I haven’t prayed about it, or I haven’t heard anything.
2. The law of first – think of the tithe for a moment: when you give God the First, you are giving Him the best...and then His blessing will rest upon you. If prayer is a secondary item, there is little room for the blessing...or in this case, answered prayer. (I have been instructed by the Holy Spirit to teach you what prayer is, how to pray, and how to receive.....Get ready!).

B. Why pray? **James 5:13**

1. To change things!
2. Moving mountains, stopping winds and waves, healing the sick or casting out demons....it’s all possible through the power of BELIEVING PRAYER.
3. “The effectual fervent...” - The Heartfelt Believing Prayer...
4. Most people view prayer as asking God for something or a petition in time of need....*but if the first thing is your always thing, it changes everything!*

C. The Always Thing

1. **Ephesians 6:17-18** “*Praying always with ALL prayer...*”
2. Prayer is not one thing...it is everything. Your relationship with God is perfected through your communication with God....not just in time of need, but in everything.

II. All Prayer – The Five Different Kinds of Prayer

A. **The Prayer of Faith**

1. **“A Commanding Voice That Activates the Will of God.”**
2. **Mark 11:20-24** – Jesus did not pray to God concerning the fig tree. He spoke directly to it. (The prayer of faith should be the most common, but is in fact the most omitted....Satan doesn’t want Christians to pray this way because that’s how sickness is removed, devils are cast out, and winds and waves cease!)
3. Too many are praying for God to move things, and that is why prayers go (as it seems) un-answered...people are praying wrong...plain and simple.

B. ***Prayer of Petition/Request***

1. ***Psalm 37:4 /Mark 11:24***
2. ***Matthew 7:7-11***
3. When you pray, do so with specifics....What do you want? (This is what Jesus asked the blind man that approached him for healing.) ***James 4:2-3***

C. ***The Prayer of Wisdom/Guidance***

1. ***James 1:5-7***
2. When you need direction, ask...with the expectation of an answer. (No more “shotgun prayers” – “If I pray enough, maybe one will land and hit the mark!”)
3. Have you noticed that there is a common denominator for all prayer? Faith!

D. ***The Prayer of Intercession***

1. ***Romans 8:27 & 34***
2. When you are interceding for someone, it means you are standing in the gap for them. (When most people have said, “I’m praying for you...”, I have wondered what they are really praying!)

E. ***The Prayer of the Spirit/Praying in Tongues or the Holy Ghost***

1. ***Jude 1:20***
2. ***I Corinthians 14:13-15***
3. Praying in the Spirit is one of the greatest weapons in the Spirit against your enemy.....pay attention to the power of it in ***I Corinthians 14:2-4*** (Speaking directly to God in your own personal heavenly language and edifying yourself at the same time....who wouldn’t want this as a part of their life?)