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Prayer - The Process, Privilege, Power and Problems

Introduction – Prayer is one of the most important parts of a believer’s life. As Christians we need to be in constant communication with the One who created us and who wants an intimate, personal relationship with us. Today we will get a “refresher” course on some of the basics of prayer.

Definition – “Prayer is conversation with God; the intercourse of the soul with God, not in contemplation or meditation, but in direct address to Him. Prayer may be oral, or mental, occasional, constant, ejaculatory, or formal.”

Begin with.....

Confession – 1 John 1:9

Adoration – Romans 8:15-17

Thanksgiving- Philippians 4:6-7

Supplication – Philippians 4:6-7 “To ask for humbly and earnestly, as by prayer”, to make a humble request of; petition earnestly.” (Websters College Dictionary)

Pray for.....

God’s Will– Mark 14:36, 1 John 5:14-15, Proverbs 3:5-6

Leaders – 1 Tim. 2:1-4

Each other – Acts 12:5-9

Protection from temptation/evil– Matthew 6:13

Wisdom – James 1:5

Your enemies – Matthew 5:43-45

Pray with.....

The authority of Jesus - John 14:13-14

Peace – Philippians 4:6-7

Faith – Matthew 17:20

Persistence/P.U.S.H. – Luke 18:1-8

Your spouse – Eccl. 4:9-12

Pray continuously -1 Thess. 5:13

Problems-

Ironies of prayer – God knows our needs yet we must ask, God is ready to answer, but we must patiently persist

God will sometimes give us something we ask for that is not good for us to teach us something
1 Samuel 8:5-22

God says “No”

What is the greatest prayer we can pray?

Conclusion - Prayer is a vital part of every Christian’s life. Jesus spoke to His father often each day and we need to learn from His example. We have been given the gift of prayer from a Holy God who wants to hear from us. Have you spoken and spent time with Him today?