

FIRST STEPS WITH JESUS

Lesson 8: GOD ANSWERS PRAYER

Purpose: To understand the meaning of prayer, the importance of prayer and how to prayer correctly and receive answers.

I. PRAYER IS GOD'S IDEA, METHOD AND INVITATION TO US.

A. John 16:23-24

1. These verses reveal to us that prayer is God's idea and method for meeting our needs and causing His will to come to pass in our lives. God is giving us an invitation to ask Him in prayer and promises He will give us what we ask.
2. Prayer is one primary method by which we can receive what God has given us through Jesus Christ.

B. Prayer Is Not Begging God Or Trying To Convince God.

1. Rom 8:32 – God has already given you all things in Christ.
2. Prayer is just the method we receive.
3. God give to us by His Grace and we receive by prayer and faith.

II. HOW CAN WE HAVE A SUCCESSFUL PRAYER LIFE?

A. John 16:23-24 – Pray to the Father in Jesus' Name.

1. Do not ask Jesus but ask your Heavenly Father.
2. "In Jesus Name" means:
 - a. Not going in your own name and based on your own good works. But going to the Father in Jesus' Name and based on His works – what Jesus has done for you. Because of Jesus' works for you you can receive from God.

B. 1 John 5:14-15 Pray According To God's Will. God's Word is His will.

1. Find scripture that promises what you need and ask in accordance to the scripture.
2. If you do not know where or how to find the promise scriptures in the Bible then ask me.
3. Prayer promise: God will hear and give what we ask.

C. Mark 11:23 Believe You Receive.

1. Rom 10:17 Meditate in the scriptures from point "A" above and faith to receive will come into your heart.
2. 2 Cor 5:7, 2 Cor 1:20 – Do not be moved by what you see but by what you believe. God is faithful and all His promises are yes and Amen.
3. Prayer promise: If you believe you receive you will have it.

D. James 1:6-7 Refuse To Doubt.

1. When thoughts of doubt come reject them and continue to believe.
2. Mark 11:23 – Continue to believe by speaking God's Promise and confessing "God heard my prayer, I believe I receive, I have it now".

3. Faith promise: What you say with your mouth and believe in your heart you will receive.

E. Phil 4:6 Be Specific and Give Thanks To God.

1. "Let your request be made known" In the original Greek language the Bible was written in this phrase includes the meaning of be very specific in your request. God wants you to be clear and specific when you ask something from Him.
2. "With thanksgiving" After you ask God begin to praise God and give Him thanks for the answer. Continue to do this until the answer manifests in your life.

III. YOUR PRAYER RELEASES GOD'S POWER.

A. James 5:16-18 Prayer Releases God's Power.

1. When you pray according to the above prayer principles your prayer will release God's power which will cause the answer to come.

Conclusion: God has given us a method by which we can receive from God. We can pray to the Father in the Name of Jesus with faith, believing we receive. God is able to work and accomplish His will in our life and on the Earth through your prayers. Begin to pray to God every day. When you have a need, face a trial, or need help turn to God and pray.

HANDOUT: Give out a list of scripture promises for different areas of life.

READING ASSIGNMENT: Jeremiah 29:11-13

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COMPREHENSION TEST: For instructor with answers.

1. What is prayer? Prayer is God's method, idea and invitation to help us receive from God.
2. Who do Christians pray to? In Who's Name? We pray to the Father God in Jesus' Name.
3. Should Christians expect to receive answers to prayers? Why? Yes. Because God has promised to answer our prayers and give us what we ask.
4. How does God use the prayers of Christians? To cause His will to come to pass in our lives.
5. What happens when you pray according to the prayer principles taught in this lesson? The power of God begins to work and causes the answer to our prayer to come.

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COMPREHENSION TEST: For Student

1. What is prayer?
2. Who do Christians pray to? In Who's Name?
3. Should Christians expect to receive answers to prayers? Why?
4. How does God use the prayers of Christians?
5. What happens when you pray according to the prayer principles taught in this lesson?