

(W.O.R.S.H.I.P) - Speak With God

(* Review previous lesson ***)**

God wants to speak to us, and He also wants us to speak back to Him! Prayer can simply be defined as speaking with God.

Q) What do you know about prayer? What do you think it is? What does it look like?

Let's read this passage of scripture to see what God has to say about prayer...

Always be joyful. Never stop praying. Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.

(1 Thessalonians 5:16 - 18)

Another way to look at this verse is this: never stop talking with God! Treat Him like your best friend; talk to Him all the time & listen to Him all the time. This is praying "without stopping."

We can communicate/speak with God just like we do with another person:

Where/How/What to Pray

Where we can pray (Speak with God) [Discussion]

- Sitting down
- Standing up
- In the car
- Anywhere in our house
- While outside on a walk
- At work or at school
- Anywhere!

Ways we can pray (Speak with God) [Discussion]

- Just saying what's on our mind
- Asking Him for help; making a request (1 Chronicles 4:10)
- Praising Him (Revelation 4:11)
- Thanksgiving (Isaiah 25:1)
- Recite scripture
- Just sitting still and listening to Him! (1 Samuel 3:10)

Again, this is just like a conversation we have with anyone else. God wants to hear what we have to say, and He also wants to say something about it. It is important to take the time to just listen to God while we speak with Him. Sometimes prayer can start with Him speaking to us instead of us speaking to Him!

Things we can pray about & for (Speak with God) [Discussion]

- About Him!
- About ourselves
- For our friends & family
- For our church
- For Him to put people on our path that are ready to receive Him for the first time or come back to Him
- For our schools, jobs, neighborhoods, cities, countries, government, & more!
- For us/others to be healed!

We should have a time we set aside daily to communicate/speak with God, but we should communicate with Him throughout our day.

Here are some example prayers - simple! They don't have to be complicated:

If you are asked to pray before a meal:

"God, thank you for this food and the fellowship we are about to have."

If you are asked to open a meeting:

"God, thank you for your presence here today. May all we do glorify You."

If you are asked to close a meeting:

"God, thank you for the fellowship we had and what you did in us in this meeting."

Hearing God's Voice

To close off this lesson let's discuss a question...

Q) How can we tell that it is God speaking to us when we pray?

Here are some ways we can tell that it is God speaking to us

1. It is scripturally sound! God will never say something that goes against his own word
2. It aligns with God's heart (Scripture is not taken out of context)
3. It's encouraging & brings life
4. It has fruit that follows!