



Sermon on the Mount Series

PRAYER POWER

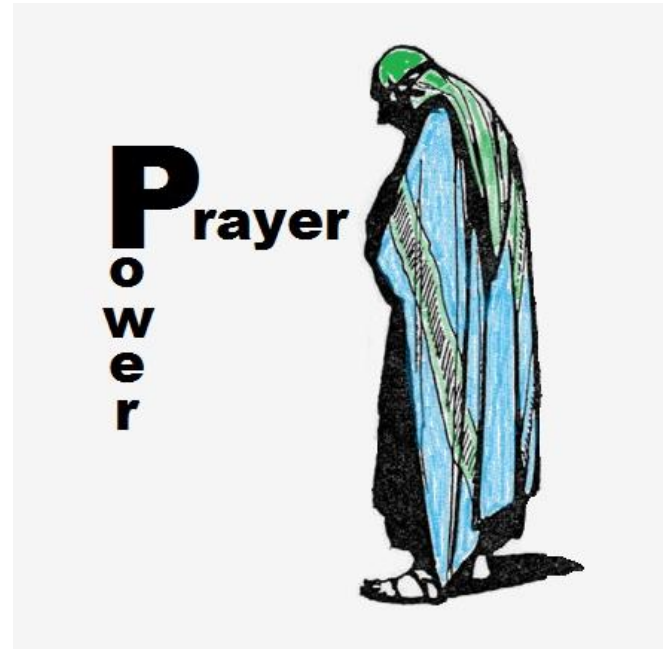
The Transforming Power of Prayer

Course Text: Matthew 6:5-13

Please read both of these passage now, to get the context for this course. You are going to want to put a marker in your Bible at Matthew 6 because we will be returning to it many times, but we are also going to be looking at many other scriptures. The Bible talks so much about prayer it was very difficult to keep this course down to a reasonable size.

Lesson Topic

- Lesson A - Place and Posture** (Matthew 6:5-6)
- Lesson B - Persistent Prayer** (Matthew 6:7 & 11)
- Lesson C - Purpose of Prayer** (Matthew 6:8)
- Lesson D - Praise in Prayer** (Matthew 6:9)
- Lesson E - Prayer's Petition** (Matthew 6:10-12)
- Lesson F - Prayer Power** (Matthew 6:13)



Suggested methodology for each course:

1. Allow time for greetings and fellowship (Save most of this for the end of class.)
2. Take prayer requests (Try to keep it from becoming a competition to see who has the most or the worst.)
3. Pray (The idea here is to leave our troubles with God so we can give His word our attention with a clear mind.)
4. Read the text aloud from the Bible one question at a time.
5. Answer and briefly discuss the “fill in the blank” questions. Let those who prefer to listen, listen. My answers on the next page are just one opinion; you may have a better answer. Repeat 4 & 5 for all questions except the *"Think & Pray"* questions.
6. On the final *"Think & Pray"* question everyone should take a few minutes to pray over it and jot down their own thoughts before the discussion. **This gives the Holy Spirit a time to speak, so don't rush it.** The class leader should watch for the pencils and pens to quit moving. Others can look at the "For Further Thought" questions while waiting for everyone to finish.
7. Discuss your *"Think & Pray"* answers. Never force anyone to share theirs. As with the other questions, my answer, when provided, are just one more opinion; you may have a better answer.
8. Close in prayer (It is best to call on others to pray, but try to get their permission ahead of time.)
9. Fellowship (Leave this as open ended as possible for the time and place you meet.)

Depending on the number of people, each lesson is expected to take about one hour. Steps 4 thru 7 are about half of that. If you take longer, let each lesson take more than one meeting, or consider breaking into two groups. If you take less time, extra questions are provided for discussion called “For Further Thought” I usually include a short note with my opinion on the answers.

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Lesson A - Place and Posture of Prayer (Matthew 6:5-6)

Please read these scriptures and answer the associated questions:

[A1] Matthew 6:5-6. Where should we pray? _____

Daniel 6:10.

[A2] Where was Daniel when he prayed? _____

[A3] Was it private? _____

[A4] What position was he in when he prayed? _____

[A5] How often did he pray? _____

John chapter 17

[A6] Who was present when Jesus prayed? _____

[A7] What position was he in when he prayed? _____

Matthew 26:39-46

[A8] Who was present when Jesus prayed? _____

[A9] What position was He in when he prayed? _____

[A10] Where should we pray? Are we really supposed to go to a secret place every time we pray?

What position should we be in when we pray?

Think and Pray _____



Daniel 6: 10 Now when Daniel knew that the document was signed, he entered his house (now in his roof chamber he had windows open toward Jerusalem); and he continued kneeling on his knees three times a day, praying and giving thanks before his God, as he had been doing previously.

----- ANSWERS -----

Lesson A - Place and Posture of Prayer (Matthew 6:5-6)

- [A1] Matthew 6:5-6. Where should we pray? In secret Mt 6:6 Interesting note from the Greek: The word *reward* in verse 5 and the word *reward* in verse 6 are not the same word in the Greek. *Reward* in verse 5 means a *reward* you have earned, *reward* in verse 6 is an unearned gift.
- [A2] Read Daniel 6:10. Where was Daniel when he prayed? a high chamber Dn 6:10
- [A3] Was it private? No Dn 6:11 Have we learned to look at the context yet?
- [A4] What position was he in when he prayed? his knees Dn 6:10
- [A5] How often did he pray? three times a day Dn 6:10
- [A6] In John 17 who was present when Jesus prayed? his disciples Jn 16:29 Sometimes the context is in the prior chapter.
- [A7] What position was he in when he prayed? at the table John 13:28 Sometimes the context several chapters away.
- [A8] In Matthew 26:39-46 who was present when Jesus prayed? Peter, James & John Mt 26:36-37, Mt 4:21 Sometimes the context is in more than one place.
- [A9] What position was He in when he prayed? on his face Mt 26:39
- [A10] We should pray where ever we need to, but never for show. I don't think God cares what position you are in as long as you mean it. A proper prayer position poem:

I found several versions of this poem on the internet but was unable to determine who first wrote it:

"The proper way for a man to pray,"
Said Deacon Samuel Keys,
"And the only proper attitude
Is down upon his knees."

"No, I should say the way to pray,"
Said Rev. Dr. Wise,
"Is standing straight with uplifted arms
And rapt and upturned eyes."

"Oh, no, no, no"

Said Elmer Snow.

"Such posture's way too proud.

A man should pray with eyes fast closed
and head contritely bowed."

"Last year I fell in Hodgkin's well,
Headfirst," said Syrus Brown,
"And all my toes were stickin' up
And my head was a pointin' down.

"And I made a prayer right then and there,
The best I'd ever said.
The prayin'est prayer I ever prayed
Was standin' on my head."

You should pray in whatever position helps you keep your mind focused on Him instead of yourself. If it helps you to fold your hands or kneel or raise your hands in the air, or whatever, do so.

For further thought:

Analyze these Biblical examples of prayer with regard to how they prepared themselves for prayer.:

(a11) Daniel 9:4-19 Notice verse 3; "So I gave my attention to the Lord God to seek Him by prayer and supplications, with fasting, sackcloth and ashes."

(a12) Isaiah 38:2-8 Hezekiah is praying on his sick bed with his face to the wall. He was probably speaking aloud, but he could have been just thinking it.

(a13) Matthew 26:36-46 Jesus is prone on his face and weeps

(a14) Romans 8:15, 23-27 What is the place, posture and mode of this prayer? Within ourselves

(a15) How do you prepare yourself for prayer?

Lesson B - Persistent Prayer (Matthew 6:7 & 11)

Please read these scriptures and answer the associated questions:

[B1] Matthew 6:7. What do some people think will make God hear them? _____

[B2] 1 Thessalonians 5:17 How long are we supposed to pray? _____

[B3] 2 Sam 12:15-19. How long did David pray for his sick child? _____

[B4] Daniel 10 how long did Daniel pray? _____

[B5] Luke 11:9-10 & Matthew 7:7 What must you do to get an answer to prayer? _____

[B6] Matthew 6:11 What kind of bread are we to pray for? _____

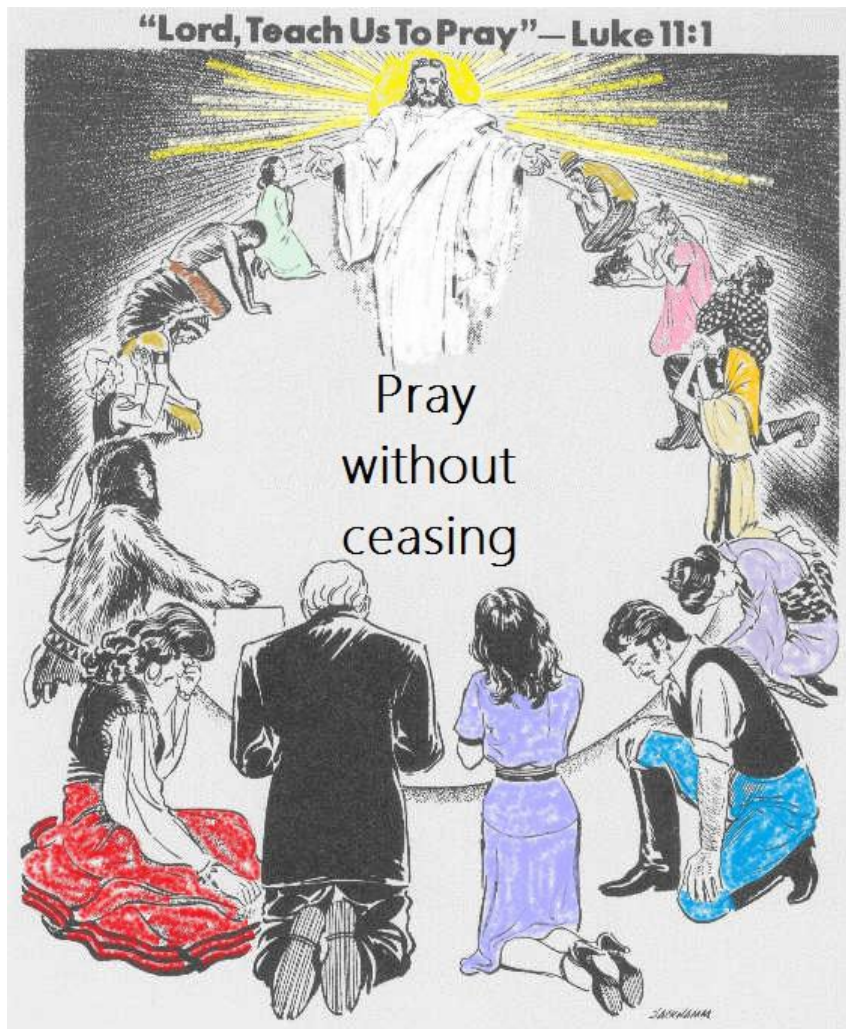
[B7] Hebrews 13:15 How often are we to offer praise? _____

[B8] How long and how often should you pray?

Think and Pray _____

How often should we pray?

Think and Pray _____



----- ANSWERS -----

Lesson B - Persistent Prayer (Matthew 6:7 & 11)

[B1] Matthew 6:7. What do some people think will make God hear them? many words Mt 6:7 The Greek word translated "meaningless repetition" (babbling NIV, vain repetitions KJV) could also be translated *stutter*. Notice it says, do not use MEANINGLESS repetition. There is nothing wrong with meaningFUL repetition.

[B2] 1 Thessalonians 5:17 How long are we supposed to pray? without stopping 1Th 5:17

[B3] 2 Sam 12:15-19. How long did David pray for his sick child? 7 days and 7 nights in a row 2Sm 12:18 When the child died he quit, dusted himself off, praised God, and went back to his life.

[B4] In Daniel 10 how long did Daniel pray? 21 days or 3 weeks Dn 10:13 The angel had to fight his way through demons to get to Daniel with the answer. Think how discouraging it must be for an angel to be fighting his way to you with an answer, and then have you just quit praying.

[B5] Luke 11:9-10 & Matthew 7:7 What must you do to get an answer to prayer?

Ask, seek, knock. Lk 11:9-10, Mt 7:7

[B6] Matthew 6:11 What kind of bread are we to pray for? Daily

[B7] Hebrews 13:15 How often are we to offer praise? Continually

[B8] How long and how often should we pray? As much and as long as you need to.

Most of a tribe in Africa became Christian thanks to the efforts of a missionary. They lived whole families to a hut so they did not have an "inner chamber." To have a private place to pray they would go to a particular spot out in the jungle. Each person had their own place. Pretty soon there was a pathway to each spot. When grass started to grow back on a path everyone knew someone was not praying as much as he should and they would encourage him to spend more time in prayer. "Friend there is grass on your path," they would say. Friend, is there grass in your path? Are you praying as much as you should?

We should pray until our fear becomes faith and worry becomes confidence. We should pray until our confusion becomes a decision.

In Matthew 6:11 He said pray for *daily* bread. Doesn't that mean we should pray daily?

In the Daniel passage we just looked at it said Daniel prayed *three times a day*, (Dan 6:10). Does that mean we should pray three times a day?

In the Hebrews 13:15 verse we looked at it said to offer the sacrifice of praise to God *continually*, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.

In 1st Thessalonians 5:17 it says we should *pray without ceasing*.

How often should you pray? We should pray once. Start now and stop when we get to heaven.

For further thought:

Analyze these Biblical examples of prayer with regard to the persistence of the prayer:

(b9) Acts 12:5-12 Earnest, fervent, persistent prayer is effective. Getting others to pray with you is a good idea. Don't quit. You must have faith the answer is on the way.

(b10) Daniel 9:4-19 I think the most important point here is that we need to keep praying until we get an answer. Imagine how discouraging it would be for that angel if he fought his way through to Daniel but Daniel was no longer interested in the answer. T

(b11) Genesis 18:22-33 Abraham prayed over and over again

(b12) Matthew 26:36-46 Jesus prays three times

(b13) How persistent are you in prayer?

Lesson C – The Purpose of Prayer – We cannot surprise God. (Matthew 6:8)

Please read these scriptures and answer the associated questions:

[C1] Psalm 139:1-4. When does God know what we are going to pray? _____

[C2] Matthew 6:8. When does God know what we need? _____

[C3] Romans 8:26 Who helps us pray when we don't know how or what to pray for? _____

[C4] Ephesians 6:18 How are we to pray? _____

[C5] Luke 11:10 Who receives? _____

[C6] James 4:2 What happens when you do not ask for it? _____

[C7] Hebrews 4:16 What can we expect to find at the throne of grace? _____

[C8] Philippians 4:6 What are we supposed to pray for? _____

[C9] If God already knows what we need and want, why pray at all?

Think and Pray _____



These all with one mind were continually devoting themselves to prayer, along with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers. Acts 1:14

----- ANSWERS -----

Lesson C – The Purpose of Prayer – We cannot surprise God. (Matthew 6:8)

[C1] Psalm 139:1-4. When does God know what we are going to pray? Before we speak v. 4

[C2] Matthew 6:8. When does God know what we need? Before we ask

[C3] Romans 8:26 Who helps us pray when we don't know how or what to pray for?

The Holy Spirit Seek the Spirit. He will help you pray as you ought.

[C4] Ephesians 6:18 How are we to pray? In the Spirit.

[C5] Luke 11:10 Who receives? Those who ask.

[C6] James 4:2 What happens when you do not ask for it? You do not have it.

[C7] Hebrews 4:16 What can we expect to find at the throne of grace? Mercy and help.

[C8] Philippians 4:6 What are we supposed to pray for? Everything

[C9] If God already knows what we need and want, why pray at all?

Because there is a devil, and prayer is a God-appointed way to resist Him (Ephesians. 6:12-13, 18).

Because prayer is God's way for us to obtain what we need from Him (Luke 11:3-13; James. 4:2).

Because prayer is the means God chose for us to find "grace to help in time of need" (Heb. 4:16).

Because prayer with thanksgiving is God's way for us to obtain freedom from anxiety and to receive "the peace of God" (Phil. 4:6-7).

(From a sermon by R.A Torrey)

For further thought:

Analyze these Biblical examples of prayer with regard to how the petitioner planned his prayer:

(c10) Acts 4:24-30 They asked for confidence to declare the Gospel of Jesus Christ, as well as healings and other miracles to give credibility to their preaching. How often do you pray for God to enable you to do what He expects of you?

(c11) Daniel 9:4-19 An angel comes to Daniel and reveals how his prayer will be answered in the future. If you read Nehemiah, Ezra or any good history book, you will find that they did go back to the land and Jerusalem was rebuilt.

(c12) Deuteronomy 26:5-15 This is a prayer they are instructed to pray

(c13) Exodus 32:7-14 Moses was praying for the benefit of others against his own best interests

(c14) Habakkuk 3:2-19 Of the most interest to me is the change in the prophet's heart as he prays. In verse 16 he is trembling in fear, but before he is done he is confident that God will take care of him. I believe this is the most frequent result of prayer – God changes the heart of the person praying.

(c15) Matthew 26:36-46 Jesus goes to the garden to pray and asks others to pray with Him

(c16) Numbers 6:24-26 God instructed them to pray this prayer.

(c17) Psalm 4 David is praying in writing in the form of a song or poem. The prayer is found in Ps 4:1 and then is interrupted with side comments to a group of people called sons of men that starts in verse 2. The prayer does not start up again until the second half of verse 6. Since the prayer is in writing with comments to the reader, it seems clear that David meant for the prayer to be an example or in some way instructional. The only thing David asks is that God give him a listening ear while he praises Him. (Verse 1 – final phrase) Before finishing the prayer David tells the reader that God has answered his prayer. (Verse 3 – final phrase) David appeals to God's goodness and consistent faithfulness in the path to give him confidence that God will hear him this time.

(c18) Romans 15:30-33 Paul urges his readers to "strive together with me in your prayers"

(c19) How do you plan your prayers? What is the purpose of your prayer life?

Lesson D - Praise in Prayer (Matthew 6:9)

Please read these scriptures and answer the associated questions:

[D1] Matthew 6:9 and Luke 11:2. Whose name are we to ask to be hallowed or blessed? _____

[D2] 1st Thessalonians 5:18. What are we to give thanks for? _____

Hebrews 13:15-16.

[D3] What pleases God? _____

[D4] How often should we offer the sacrifice of praise? _____

[D5] Psalm 105:3-4. When we seek God what is supposed to be in our heart? _____

[D6] What is the proper attitude for prayer?

Think and Pray _____



----- ANSWERS -----

Lesson D - Praise in Prayer (Matthew 6:9)

[D1] Matthew 6:9 and Luke 11:2. Whose name are we to ask to be hallowed or blessed? Our Father

[D2] 1st Thessalonians 5:18. What are we to give thanks for? Every thing

[D3] What pleases God? The sacrifice of praise

[D4] How often should we offer the sacrifice of praise? Continually

[D5] Psalm 105:3-4. When we seek God what is supposed to be in our heart? Gladness

[D6] We should start our prayer with gratitude and let our prayer become worship.

For further thought:

Analyze these Biblical examples of prayer with regard to how persuasive they are:

- (d7) Acts 4:24-30 They quoted the scriptures (verses 24-26), mentioned His enemies who were against Jesus were in His power (verse 27-28), and reminded Him of their threats (verse 29). They were in some kind of gathering place of God's people. It might have been the home of one of them. They lifted up their voices and all spoke together. It is not clear whether they miraculously spoke the same words in unison, or if it was some kind of conversational prayer pronounced by the few to which the rest said, "Amen."
- (d8) Daniel 9:4-19 Daniel confesses guilt and reminds God of His goodness and generosity. The most convincing point of all is in verse Dan 9:2. He is basing his prayer on God's prayer in the book of Jeremiah.
- (d9) Deuteronomy 26:5-15 Reminds God of His promise. "as You swore to our fathers" Dt 26:15
- (d10) Exodus 32:7-14 Moses reminds God of His promises and His reputation.
- (d11) Genesis 18:22-33 Abraham appealed to God's mercy.
- (d12) Habakkuk 3:2-19 How does the person praying try to convince God to answer? Habakkuk reminds God of his past mercies, and proclaims that no matter what happens, he will serve God.
- (d13) Jonah 2:2-9 Jonah uses an interesting method of trying to convince God. He does not ask God for anything directly, although it is clear what he wants. Jonah just thanks God and praises Him as if the prayer were already answered. It takes a lot of faith to pray that way. He promises he will worship and thank Him. I think it very likely that this prayer is of the kind promised in Romans 8:26. I think Jonah simply cried out in anguish, and what we read here are the words of the Holy Spirit.
- (d14) Matthew 26:36-46 Jesus is completely submissive to the Father's will
- (d15) Philippians 1:3-11 Paul expresses confidence that what God starts he will finish (verse 6), he mentions that the righteousness he is asking for can only come from Jesus Christ, (verse 11) and says that answering the prayer will give glory and praise to God. (verse 11)
- (d16) Psalm 3 Praise for previously answered prayer of the same kind, expressions of faith and trust, and in verse 2 a hint that if God does not answer, people will believe God does not answer prayer.
- (d17) Romans 1:8-15 He starts with gratitude
- (d18) Romans 15:5-6 He mentions that the results of the prayer will ultimately be the glorification of God with a unified voice.
- (d19) Romans 8:15, 23-27 How does the person praying try to convince God to answer? With groanings too deep for words
- (d20) Do praise, worship and gratitude inhabit your prayers?

Lesson E - Prayer's Petition What should we ask for? (Matthew 6:10-12)

Please read these scriptures and answer the associated questions:

Matthew 6:10.

[E1] What is to be done? _____

[E2] Where is His will to be done? _____

[E3] 1 Timothy 2:1-2 Who is to be prayed for? _____

[E4] Who was Jesus praying for in John 17? _____

[E5] James 5:16. Who are we supposed to pray for? _____

Matthew 6:11-13 and Luke 11:3-4

[E6] What should we ask for? _____

[E7] How long will it be before we need daily bread again? _____

[E8] How are we to be forgiven? _____

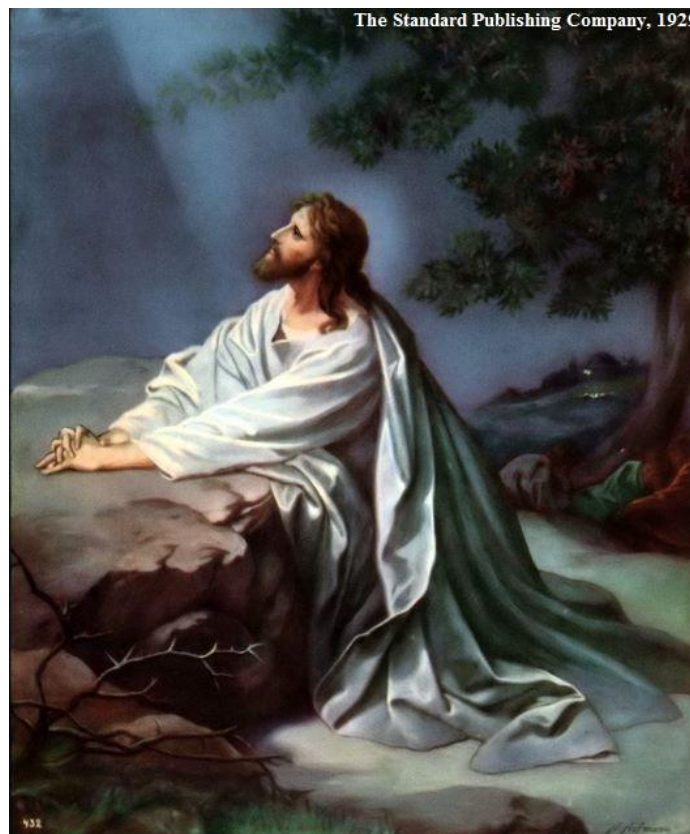
[E9] Psalm 66:18. If you are happy with sin in your heart what happens? _____

[E10] James 1:13-14. What tempts us into sin? _____

[E11] Matthew 26:41. What should we ask for? _____

[E12] What else should we ask for?

Think and Pray _____



----- ANSWERS -----

Lesson E - Prayer's Petition What should we ask for? (Matthew 6:10-12)

[E1] What is to be done? His will

[E2] Where is His will to be done? Earth and Heaven (In the Greek *in heaven* is emphasized)

[E3] 1 Timothy 2:1-2 Who is to be prayed for? all men 1Tm 2:1 and those in authority 1Tm 2:2

[E4] Who was Jesus praying for in John 17? His disciples Jn 17:9 and us Jn 17:20

[E5] James 5:16. Who are we supposed to pray for? Each other

[E6] What should we ask for? Daily Bread Mt6:11 & Lk 11:3 [This could be translated "What we need to survive, give us this day." – that is, give us what we need, when we need it because "*bread*" is literally "*what is required to allow us to stand up.*"]

[E7] How long will it be before we need daily bread again? The next day Mt 6:11 & Lk 11:3

[E8] How are we to be forgiven? The same way we forgive others. Mt 6:12, Lk 11:4

[E9] Psalm 66:18. If you are happy with sin in your heart what happens? The Lord does not hear you

[E10] James 1:13-14. What tempts us into sin? Our own lust. v. 14

[E11] Matthew 26:41. What should we ask for? To not have too much temptation

[E12] What else should we ask for? God's will, of course, but Jesus gives examples of much more.

What does His will being done *on earth* mean, if it doesn't mean people doing His will? **People** - We should pray for everyone. We should pray until the lost are saved, which is God's will (See Matthew 18:14 & 2 Peter 3:9), and then keep praying for them. We should pray for those in authority over us. We should pray for each other. **Provision** - What should you ask for? We should pray for our needs. Pray until our lack becomes plenty. We should also ask for **Pardon** and **Protection**

One little boy prayed that God not make him any better because "I'm having a real good time like I am." Is that your secret prayer? Are you satisfied with the way you are? Are you holding grudges? Unforgiveness can hinder your prayers. (We'll see more about forgiveness when we get to Matthew 6:14 & 15 in another course in this series on the Sermon on the Mount.)

There is only one way to be delivered from evil and that is the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The blood of Christ is the only way to cleanse our heart so that our prayers will be unhindered. If you do not have Jesus Christ as your Savior; if you do have a personal relationship with the Lord, I hope now will be the time.

What should you ask for? We should pray for our forgiveness. We should pray that we become better people. We should begin with sorrow for our sins and pray until we *know* God has forgiven us. Pray for deliverance from temptation. There is only one way to be delivered from evil and that is the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The blood of Christ is the only way to cleanse our heart so that our prayers will be unhindered. If you do not have Jesus Christ as your Savior; if you do have a personal relationship with the Lord, I hope now will be your time.

For further thought: Analyze these Biblical examples of prayer with regard to what was requested:

(e13) 1 Samuel 2:1-10 Nothing is requested. She is just praising God for answered prayer.

(e14) 1 Kings 3:5-9 Wisdom – an understanding heart to judge correctly between good and evil.

Do you ask God for this or do you just assume you already know? (see James 1:5-8 and Colossians 1:9-12)

(e15) Acts 7:56-60 For his spirit to be received by Jesus and forgiveness for his murderers.

(e16) Daniel 9:4-19 Forgiveness of God's people, return to the Land, and Jerusalem rebuilt.

(e17) Genesis 18:22-33 Abraham was praying for his nephew, not for himself

(e18) Jude 1:24-25 How often do you just praise God in prayer without a request in mind?

(e19) Matthew 26:36-46 Jesus requests rescue from the inevitable

(e20) Numbers 6:24-26 God's shining face. Do you ever ask God to give you more of Him?

(e21) Philippians 1:3-11 That the love of Paul's readers will continue to grow, that we will have more knowledge and discernment, so we can tell what is excellent, and that we remain blameless until the Lord returns.

(e22) Do you pray to God like He is Santa Claus or your boss?

Lesson F - Prayer Power (Matthew 6:13)

Please read these scriptures and answer the associated questions:

[F1] Matthew 6:13. How long will His power last. _____

[F2] John 15:7. What must we do to have our prayers answered? _____

[F3] Where does the answer to prayer come from? _____

[F4] What are the important points would you like to remember from this course?

Think & Pray _____

For further thought:

- (f5) Acts 7:56-60 Stephen asked for his spirit to be received by Jesus and that those who are killing him be forgiven. Notice that Stephen prays the two prayers that Jesus prayed on the cross. Acts 7:59 - Luke 23:46 and Acts 7:60 - Luke 23:34. Do you pray the prayers of Jesus?
- (f6) 1 Samuel 2:1-10 Not all prayer is a list of requests. The Bible reports many prayers similar to this one. The example set for us is someone being thankful and grateful enough for answered prayer to praise and worship God. In the original Hebrew language this prayer is in the form of a song or a poem. This is also a good example for us to follow. How often do we greet answered prayer with a yawn or a shrug? How often does God bless us and yet we do not even notice it?
- (f7) Isaiah 38:2-8 Hezekiah does not mention what he wants. He understands that God knows he is praying not to die, without him saying so. God already knows our needs before we pray. Is it possible we need to hear ourselves form the words and speak them, or at least think them?
- (f8) 1 Kings 18:36-37 If your prayers aren't being answered, you might want to consider that you are praying to the wrong god. Are you treating God as if He is Santa Claus or a kindly old wizard in a white robe instead of your Lord and Master?
- (f9) Acts 4:24-30 The place of prayer was shaken, they were filled with the Holy Ghost, and they began to preach with boldness. The rest of the book of Acts reports many healings and other miracles that gave credibility to their preaching. This was an important prayer in the establishment and growth of the early church. What have been the most astounding answers to prayer in your life?
- (f10) John 11:41-42 Jesus was praying to God, but Martha, Mary, His disciples, and a crowd of Jews were listening. Jesus just offers thanks out loud. However, the results strongly hint that Jesus also prayed silently asking that Lazarus would come back to life. To try to convince God to answer, Jesus says He has faith that He has been heard, and suggests that an answer will help those who are standing around to come to believe. So the expected recipients are Lazarus to get his life back, his sisters will get their brother back, and the Jews will come to believe. He prays in a graveyard, probably standing up, with His eyes looking heavenward. Part of the prayer is silent and part is out loud. The results are that Lazarus gets His life back, the sister get their brother back. In verse 45 we see that many of the Jews come to believe, but not all. Some chose to hold onto their disbelief even in the face of this astounding evidence! Does this mean prayer for the lost is hopeless? Why?

----- ANSWERS -----

Lesson F - Prayer Power (Matthew 6:13)

[F1] Matthew 6:13. How long will His power last. Forever. Mt 6:13.

[F2] John 15:7. What must we do to have our prayers answered? Abide in him. Jn 15:7 If we are abiding in Him, we will always pray according to His will.

[F3] Where does the answer to prayer come from? From God, Therefore we should pray expecting an answer.

[F4] Answers to prayer depend on Him, NOT us.

Where should you pray? Where ever we need to, but never for show.

What position should we be in to pray? If it helps you to kneel or raise your hands in the air, or whatever, go ahead.

Don't let the grass grow on your prayer path. We should pray until our concern becomes confidence. We should pray until our confusion becomes a decision.

We should start with gratitude and let our prayer become worship.

We should pray until the lost are saved, and then keep praying for them.

Pray until our lack becomes plenty.

Hold no grudges. Ask God to make you a better person.

We should pray until our fear becomes faith.

Obey God so as not to hinder your prayers.

We should pray expecting an answer.

For further thought: (continued)

(f11) What results, if any, are reported to the prayer in Romans 15:5-6? None yet, however, this prayer will be answered because it is in the will of God. See Isaiah 45:23, Romans 14:11 and Philippians 2:10. Since unity of thought and worship is God's will, shouldn't we include asking for it in our regular prayers?

(f) Romans 10:1 & 11:26 As part of our prayers for the lost it is a good idea to offer God our services in bringing about the desired results. This offer should take the form of a plea for the privilege rather than a reluctant willingness. Do you agree? Why or why not?

(f12) Is reading your Bible a form of prayer? It can be. If you pray and ask for God's guidance and wisdom and then read expecting Him to talk to you, then it is a form of prayer in my opinion. Neither "pray" nor "prayer" appear any place in Leviticus. There is also no example of anyone speaking to God. Some would say that means there are no prayers in Leviticus. I disagree. The phrase, "The Lord spoke" appears 32 times in Leviticus, mostly in the first verse of most of the chapters. Please look at Leviticus chapter 1 and see if you agree with me. Why or why not?

(f13) Compare Matthew 6:5-13 with Luke 11:1-4. What is the same? What is different?

(f14) Read Luke 11:5-13. and Matthew 7:7-12. What do these mean to our prayer life?