

A Beginner's Guide to Prayer



thenaz.church

We see hundreds of communities
of fully devoted Jesus followers,
united in prayer,
impacting their world for His kingdom.

Talk with God

Don't glance over this truth—it's the foundation of your prayer life.

God wants to talk with you when you pray. Not to be talked at, or to whisper, or to yell His quiet instruction from afar. Prayer is two-way communication with the Lord. Consider how you interact with a friend, both listening and speaking.

Let It Be Real Prayer, not a Production

Don't get distracted by fancy words or trying to sound eloquent. The Lord is not withholding something until you say the magic words. He wants to talk with you – to grow in relationship.

Let Jesus hear the genuine prayers of your heart. Talk with him in your real voice.

The Lord's Prayer

Most of us have heard the Lord's Prayer, likely in the King James translation.

Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen. (Matthew 6:9-13, KJV)

You don't need to talk to God in King James speak. Jesus didn't offer this prayer to the disciples as what to pray, but as instruction about how to pray.

- **Recognize God's holiness.**

Yes, He allows us come to Him just as we are. But that's because he's merciful. I often begin times of prayer with worship to get the right perspective.

- **Pray for His will.**

More important, and better than what I want, is what God wants.

- **Trust Him to provide.**

Bring your requests before Him.

- **Ask for forgiveness for your sins.**

Salvation cleanses us. But we sin. All. The. Time. I am constantly asking God for forgiveness, and I am learning to forgive others freely.

- **Ask Him to help you to overcome the enemy.**

Pray Continually

We all have lives. I'm not saying you need to sit in a quiet room for hours and hours a day to talk with God. He is everywhere and hears everything.

You don't need to be in church to talk with God. Communicate with Him as you go about your day. Keep the conversation going. Thank Him for things. Lift up a request. Admire His creation.

Rejoice always. pray without ceasing. give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)

If it's hard for you to remember to talk with God throughout the day, create reminders for yourself. Set an alarm to go off on your phone. Leave sticky notes in your car with things to pray for. Don't let your schedule hinder you from hanging out with Jesus during the day.

Pay Attention to How God Answers

He will answer you. Guaranteed. His answers will come as "Yes", "No", or "Not yet." But there's always an answer. Sometimes I've felt like God ignores my prayer when, really, I don't want the answer He gives.

More than just hearing what He says - watch what God does. How does He move on your behalf? If He said no to something, what doors did He open instead? You may want to record these things, because looking back at how God moves will build your faith!

Praying God's Word

Hebrews 4:12 says that God's Word is alive and powerful, sharper than a two-edged sword. When we speak and pray the Scriptures, we are coming into agreement with God, and His power is released to answer our prayers.

Praying the Scriptures will increase your spiritual growth. You actually learn what God says about certain situations, and by praying His Word you will see His results.

Content taken and edited from:

Jen Weaver: thejenweaver.com/how-to-pray-beginners

Praying Scripture: prayingscriptures.com

Prayer Resources

For more prayer resources, visit thenaz.church/prayer

Opportunities for Praying with Others

Praying for Revival

Join with others to pray for revival. Everyone is welcome.

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| Saturdays | 9:00 pm | Worship Center |
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Other Prayer Gatherings

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| Mondays | 6:00 am | Worship Center |
| Wednesdays | 6:00 am | Men's prayer, Prayer Rm |
| Wednesdays | 7:00 pm | Church Mouse Praise House |

Other Prayer Opportunities

To get involved in any of the following opportunities, contact Bill Bolin at bbolin@thenaz.church or 614-875-2551, x2002.

24-Hour Prayer

Before the 1st Sunday of Each Month; from 8:00am Saturday – 8:00 am Sunday

Prayer for the Church Board and Education

Committee Meetings

15-minute slots available to pray during each of the monthly meetings

Prayer for Congregational Needs

Receive emails for prayer requests from the Prayer Coordinator