

Church of the Promise

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# Infusion

Become

Believe

Belong

Befriend

# 7 Pray With Understanding

INFUSING THE LIFE FOUND IN CHRIST  
THROUGH FAITH IN GOD'S VITAL PRECEPTS,  
MAKING EVERY MEMBER WHOLE  
SPIRIT, SOUL & BODY

# Pray With Understanding

## Session 7



### **I. PRAY with your Understanding**

When you receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit your level of communication with God greatly increases. The Bible instructs us to pray in the Spirit and also with our understanding. So, for now we will survey the topic of prayer that is simply of your own mind & will. Although many people pray to God in their own way, it is important to understand what God is seeking from us in our talks with Him, our times in prayer.

### **SPEAKING WITH GOD**

#### **A. Conversation with God**

It is vital for every born-again spirit to communicate with their Father through the Holy Spirit. As you have visitation with God, He will lead you & help you with wrong attitudes, fears, hurts and other issues of the heart. He will give you wisdom, guidance & bring healing to your heart and mind. As you hear His life-giving thoughts you will find yourself increasing in joy, peace, contentment, wisdom, courage and love. As each encounter leads you and you cooperate in obedience you will overcome obstacles in life. This will help your natural will (flesh) learn to crave the voice and presence of God as much as your spirit does.

#### **B. Hearing His voice**

He will speak to you as you persist in your talks with Him and as you listen patiently. Learning to recognize His presence & thoughts as He responds to you, often takes time. The more often you make effort to listen, the greater the responses from Him will be. So then, we need to know how God Speaks to people? Does he use audible sound you can hear with your

natural ears? That is possible and scripture records rare moments when God did speak audibly. That is out loud where He could be heard with our natural ears. The most frequent way is the inspiration of scripture. It is the revealing of truth hidden in plain sight. The Bible becomes His living instrument of RHEMA truth. He also speaks directly to your heart in prayer. He gives thoughts that suddenly answer you without your thinking them. This statement will make sense when you experience it.

## **I. Developing Faith that leads to Answered Prayer**

### **A. How do we get answered prayer?**

Of course, this is what most people want to know. How does God answer our request? Especially when we are needing help in a crisis. However, a person must always remember that God is not a “Genie in a Lamp” waiting to grant your request, nor is He your personal “Trunk Monkey” ready to pop out when you press the release button to relieve you from your troubles. He is your Father who came to earth as a Man for the sole purpose of rescuing you from eternity in a fiery hell. So, now that He has redeemed your life, His will for you is to seek His purpose for your life and thankfully live it out.

- 1) First certain truths must be accepted.
  - a) God is not a man that He should lie! *Numbers 23:19*
  - b) He is the AUTHOR and Finisher of Our faith.  
*Hebrews 12:2*
  - c) No is an answer
  - d) God is never wrong.
  - e) If you didn't get the answer you want, check the question.

There may be times in your walk you will need Him to do something. Maybe you'll need a miracle or a healing. You may need 'favor' with a disgruntled family member, boss or employee. There are spiritual gifts that function in the church for this purpose. You will learn more about them in the **Believe** Sessions. God will also meet your needs through your own simple, faith drenched prayer.

**a) You will NOT get a yes to every request! “NO” is a good answer.**

1. In the Gospels, Jesus instructs us to ask for what we need. In the **Epistles** (*Letters to the New Testament churches*), we are told that we don't have what we need because we don't ask, and that when we do ask we ask "amiss". It's a right request but for the wrong motives. Jesus told us one thing is certain, if we ask God for what he already wants to give us then we can be sure we will receive what we ask for. God only hears our request when we are in agreement and He examines our motives before cooperating with us.

***James 4:3***

*3. When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.*

2. A selfish motive equals disagreement with God. His first desire is to always work for our good. We can trust our benefits to Him. Let God handle what is good for us. A "no" is always for our good.

***Romans 8:28***

*28. And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.*

3. When you ask for what God wants to do it's an automatic yes. So discovering the will of God is our first priority for a healthy prayer life.

***1 John 5:14,15***

14. *This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us.*

15. *And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him.*

***Matthew 7:21***

21. *Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.*

## **B. The Name of Jesus is required. All authority is placed in His Name.**

Another very important precept is to pray in the authority given to the Christian through Jesus Name. **Pray in the name of Jesus**

***John 16:26,27***

26. *In that day, you will ask in my name. I am not saying that I will ask the Father on your behalf. 27. No, the Father himself loves you because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God.*

**Acts 4:12**

12. *Salvation is found in no one else, for **there is no other name** under heaven given to men by which we must be saved."*

**Phil. 2:9-11**

9. *Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and **gave him the name that is above every name,***  
10. *that **at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,** in heaven and on earth and under the earth,*  
11. *and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

**C. Pray in unity or agreement with heaven and other believers.**

**Matt. 18:18-20.**

18 *"I tell you the truth, **whatever you bind on earth will be bound** in heaven, and **whatever you loose on earth will be loosed** in heaven.*

19. *"Again, I tell you that **if two of you on earth agree** about anything you ask for, **it will be done for you by my Father** in heaven.*

20. *For **where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them.**"*

**John 16:23-24.**

23 *In that day **you will no longer ask me anything.** I tell you the truth, my Father will give you whatever you ask **in my name.***

24. *Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete.*

#### **D. Ask in faith**

Faith in what we are asking opens the heart of God. It excites him when we simply believe His will and respond in faith to it. Faith & answered prayer are inseparable.

##### ***Mark 11:23***

23. *I tell you the truth, if anyone says to this mountain, 'Go, throw yourself into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart but believes that what he says will happen, it will be done for him.*

##### ***James 1:5-8***

5. *If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him.*
6. *But when he asks, **he must believe and not doubt**, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind.*
7. ***That man should not think he will receive anything from the Lord;***
8. *he is a double-minded man, unstable in all he does.*

#### **E. Know that God's will and timing are perfect**

He is an 11:59 God! He often waits until the last second to stretch our faith to the limit. He is always right on time! HIS TIME!

## Two other Types of Prayer, Intercession & Thanksgiving

### A. Prayer that is \_\_\_\_\_ for others

Intercession is praying for others. Sometimes even believers need prayer covering. They may be under a demonic attack. They may be struggling in an area and need spiritual intervention. Your prayer gives God permission to send ministering angels on their behalf. There may be times when you will feel a strong need to pray but have no idea what you should pray. Praying in the language the Holy Spirit gives you allows your spirit come into perfect agreement and pray the exact will of God in the matter.

### B. Prayer of Thanksgiving is also Praise & \_\_\_\_\_.

An emotionally & spiritually healthy person enjoys expressing deep, heartfelt gratitude. God encourages expressions of joy and gratitude for His goodness toward you. Worship Him because He is wonderful, gentle, powerful, mighty & just. Anything you good that you think of first came from Him. If it's good, it's from God. He is so amazing. Thinking about His majesty fills the heart with overwhelming joy, deep inner peace and quietness of heart. When you speak those things to him it is praise and as you thank Him for it is thanksgiving. The interesting thing is, the more we do this the better we feel. That is just how God wants it, when we praise Him for His kindness toward us. His kindness He sowed into our hearts grows & grows. Worshipping God increases our joy. Worshipping our self interest makes us miserable. It may seem to satisfy our desires but it will be temporary where worshipping God brings lasting peace. So, make the greatest part of your time in prayer, praise, thanksgiving & worship.



## Exercise:

1. Give an example of a time when you experienced worship like this session described.
2. Write out names of people you want to begin to intercede for.
3. Commit to your memory,

### ***Hebrews 12:2***

*“Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfected of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”*

## **THIS WEEK’S BIBLE READING: Luke**

*Luke is one of the 4 books known as the Gospel (Good NEWS). These cover the Life of Christ. Some Bibles offer the Words Jesus spoke printed in RED LETTERS. Use the Bible Study tool as you read. Return your completed form for credit. These completed assignments may be counted as a grade in both the I.S.O.M: Old Testament and New Testament Survey Courses.*

## **Answers:**

Pg. 7 - Interceding

Pg. 8 - Worship