



Believe

Week 12

**How do I grow by
communicating with
God?**

What is prayer?

an address (as a petition) to God
or a god in word or thought

a solemn request for help or
expression of thanks addressed to
God or an object of worship

Where is the first example of prayer
found in the Bible?

Genesis 3: 8-10

Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the Lord God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man, “Where are you?”

He answered, “I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid.”

What is prayer?

- Prayer is walking with and talking to God.
- It can be an act of worship.
- Prayer is where we speak to God, not only with our words, but from our hearts.

When do we pray?

Ephesians 6: 18

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.

pray in the Spirit

What does this mean to you?

The word in can be translated to mean "in," "with," or "by means of."

Because of this I believe this phrase has a very broad meaning.

pray in the Spirit

One meaning is to pray in the correct spirit or frame of mind which is prayer from the heart and not out of routine or because of religious rituals or requirements.

pray in the Spirit

Another meaning is to pray with the correct spirit or in other words “with the will of God”. This is where we praying with God or asking what He wants and not just what we want.

Luke 22: 42

*“Father, if you are willing,
take this cup from me; yet
not my will, but yours be
done.”*

Another meaning is to pray
by the means of the Holy
Spirit.

This refers to our need of
the Holy Spirit to help us
with our prayers.

Romans 8:26

In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans.

James 5: 16

*The prayer of a righteous man
is powerful and effective.*

John 9: 31

*We know that God does not
hear sinners; but if anyone is
God-fearing and does His
will, He hears him.*

7:54 PM 9/11/2001
A Nation Decides to Pray
Is this “in the Spirit”?



And pray in the Spirit on all
occasions

What does the phrase “on all occasions” mean to you?

1 Thessalonians 5: 17-18

Pray continually, give thanks
in all circumstances.

How do you pray continually?

God is to always be on our
mind and in our thoughts.

How do you address God in
prayer?

Matthew 6: 9

*This, then, is how
you should pray:*

“Our Father in heaven,”

Why would we address God
as “Our Father in heaven”?

2 Corinthians 6: 18

*I will be a Father to you and
you will be My sons and
daughters.*

Galatians 3: 26

*You are all sons of God
through faith in Jesus Christ.*

1 John 3: 1

*How great is the love the
Father has lavished on us
that we should be called
children of God. That is
what we are*

Mark 14: 36

*“Abba, Father,” he said,
“everything is possible for
you. Take this cup from me.
Yet not what I will, but what
you will.”*

Ἄββα Abba This word denotes "father." It is a Syriac word, and is used by the Savior as a word denoting the affection and tenderness of a young child to his father.

Eternal **God's Name** **Elohim**
Word

Messiah **The** **FATHER** *Ransom*
S *Immanuel* **Anointed** **Alpha** **King of**
A **I Am** **One** **and** **Kings**
V **Adonai** **Omega** **Holy Spirit**
I **Redeemer** **Word of God**
O **Counselor** **Wonderful** **Word of God**
R **Lord** **King of Glory** **S**
Mighty God **of** **God With Us** **O**
Jesus **Lords** **Lord of** **n**
El Shaddai **Hosts** **Christ**

What are some examples of times when we should pray?

1. Pray when we need wisdom

Have you ever prayed for
wisdom?

James 1: 5

*If any of you lacks wisdom, you
should ask God, who gives
generously to all without finding
fault, and it will be given to you.*

Proverbs 2: 3-5

*indeed, if you call out for insight
and cry aloud for understanding,
and if you look for it as for silver
and search for it as for hidden
treasure, then you will understand
the fear of the Lord and find the
knowledge of God.*

Acts 1: 23-26

So they nominated two men:

Joseph called Barsabbas (also known as Justus) and Matthias.

Then they prayed, “Lord, you know everyone’s heart. Show us which of these two you have chosen to take over this apostolic ministry, which Judas left to go where he belongs.”

Have you ever prayed for
the wisdom to see the sin in
your life?

Psalm 139: 23-24

*Search me, God, and know my
heart;*

*test me and know my anxious
thoughts.*

*See if there is any offensive way in
me,*

*and lead me in the way
everlasting.*

What do you think would have happened if Adam and Eve had asked God this after satan told them it was good to eat from the forbidden tree before they ate from it?

1. Pray when we need wisdom
2. Pray when strength is needed

Have you ever prayed for
strength?

Luke 22: 42-43

“Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done.”

An angel from heaven appeared to him and strengthened him.

1. Pray when we need wisdom
2. Pray when strength is needed
3. Pray when healing is needed

Have you ever prayed for
healing?

James 5: 13-14

Is any one of you suffering? He should pray. Is anyone cheerful? He should sing praises. Is any one of you sick? He should call the elders of the church to pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord.

1. Pray when we need wisdom
2. Pray when strength is needed
3. Pray when healing is needed
4. Pray for our friends and families

Why is intercessory pray needed?

Through intercessory prayer God expands our capacity to love.

We live in an individualist society. It's impossible to grow in love until we learn to express it in the lives of others.

Romans 8: 34

Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.

Jesus is interceding
for us right now!

Do you pray regularly for your friends and families?

Do you pray for the lost?

Romans 9: 1-3; 10:1

*I am telling the truth in Christ,
I am not lying, my conscience
bearing me witness in the Holy
Spirit, that I have great sorrow
and unceasing grief in my
heart. For I could wish that I
myself were accursed,*

*separated from Christ for the
sake of my brethren, my
kinsmen according to the flesh,
[...]Brethren, my heart's desire
and my prayer to God for them
is for their salvation.*

Before Jesus gave up His spirit as He hung on the cross, He took time to pray for those lost who were murdering Him. He prayed, “*Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing*” (Luke 23:34).

1. Pray when we need wisdom
2. Pray when strength is needed
3. Pray when healing is needed
4. Pray for our friends and families
5. Pray for our government and political leaders

Do you pray regularly for our
government and political
leaders?

We tend to complain and not pray!

1 Timothy 2: 1-3

I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people - for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness & holiness.

This is good, and pleases God...

How do you think God feels
about the following picture?



1. Pray when we need wisdom
2. Pray when strength is needed
3. Pray when healing is needed
4. Pray for our friends and families
5. Pray for our government and political leaders
6. Pray for our enemies

Do you pray regularly for your
enemies?

Matthew 5: 43-45

*You have heard that it was said,
'Love your neighbor and hate
your enemy. But I tell you, love
your enemies and pray for those
who persecute you, that you
may be children of your Father
in heaven.*

What do you think
Jesus means here?

Pray for those who threaten:

- our country
- our livelihood
- our career
- our relationships
- our family
- our hopes and dreams
- our sense of self worth

1. Pray when we need wisdom
2. Pray when strength is needed
3. Pray when healing is needed
4. Pray for our friends and families
5. Pray for our government and political leaders
6. Pray for our enemies
7. Pray for the Church

Do you pray regularly for the
Church?

This includes our local
congregation as well as our
missionaries and Churches
around the world.

Ephesians 3: 16-19

Paul praying for his Church plant in
Ephesus

*For this reason I kneel before
the Father, from whom every
family in heaven and on earth
derives its name. I pray that out
of his glorious riches he may
strengthen you with power
through his Spirit in your inner
being,*

so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ,

*and to know this love that
surpasses knowledge—that you
may be filled to the measure of
all the fullness of God.*

What difference does prayer
make in the way I live?