

Prayer

The mysteries of prayer.

- a. What should I pray about?
- b. How should I pray?
- c. Am I doing it correctly?
- d. Why does praying feel like such a burden?
- e. Why does it feel like religious play acting?
- f. Does God really hear my prayers?
- g. Does God really answer my prayers?

Jesus' was constantly praying and teaching the His disciples about prayer. However his focus was not on the _____ of prayer so much as it was focused upon _____.

Most problems with prayer are due to the _____ we have about prayer.

Luke 11:1-4

Jesus was constantly in prayer. Luke records that Jesus was praying at least _____ times.

If Jesus was constantly in prayer, shouldn't we be?

This is the only scripture where the disciples specifically asked Jesus to teach them something.

Clues about how to pray.

1. _____.
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
 - d. _____

Old Testament prayers were much more elaborate: Lord God of Abraham, God of Jacob, etc...

2. _____.
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____

We _____ prayer if it is specifically about getting our own needs met.

3. _____.
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____

Luke 11:5-8

This is not a parable of _____, but a parable of _____.
Jesus doesn't need to be shamed or cajoled into acting. He will act
_____.

Luke 11:9-13

Principle secret of an effective prayer:

So why does the Lord delay in answering our prayers? The Lord can use delay to:

- a. _____
- b. _____

Prayer involves seeing ourselves as a _____ people without the
resources to meet our needs.

We _____ continue to pray if we feel we can do it on our own.

The basis of our prayers are not our persistence, but on God's _____.
He declares that He will meet all our needs.

Verses 11-12

God _____ in responding to our needs. He wants the _____ for us.

We have got to understand the characteristics of God.

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
- d. _____
- e. _____

Matt. 7:11

The most important prayer is the prayer of assistance. It is certainly not
sinful to pray for physical needs. In fact, God tells us to. However, as we
mature as Christians, our primary focus should be on our spiritual well being.
Although we desire God's blessings, we should be more desirous of our on-going,
growing relationship with God.