

## PRAYER

Prayer should be as natural to a Christian as breathing. It is communicating with God what is on our heart and does not need any special language. God wants us to talk to Him as our Father who cares very deeply about us. We can talk to Him about anything and everything. Philippians 4:6-7.

## PRINCIPLES OF PRAYER

1. God is a loving, generous God who is more ready to give than we are to ask. Romans 8:32, Matthew 7:7-11.
2. We need to be honest with God in prayer and to pray with our whole heart open and honest before God. I Kings 19:9-14, Hebrews 4:13
3. We need to be very definite in prayer and pray with specific requests to God. James 5:17.
4. We need to have a spirit of self-judgment in prayer and to ask God to search us out thoroughly. Psalms 139:23-24.
5. God cannot grant a selfish request. James 4:3, I John 5:14
6. God always knows best and will answer our prayers with our best interests in mind. Psalm 18:30-32, Matthew 6:8
7. God will not do for us that which we can do for ourselves. Psalm 119:106, 110, 112.
8. Stop and listen to God. Don't do all the talking, wait upon God. Psalm 46:10, I Samuel 3:10.
9. Do not pray hypocritically. Luke 18:11-12.

## TYPES OF PRAYER

1. Invocation: Asking God to help us realize His presence with us and being aware of speaking to Him. Psalm 16:11, I Corinthians 1:29.
2. Confession: Agreeing with God about our sins, bringing them out into the light of His presence with sorrow and repentance. I John 1:9.
3. Thanksgiving: Praise, worship. Psalm 107:8, 15, 21, 31.
4. Petition: Asking God to help us and give us what is according to His will and what He knows is best. I John 5:14-15, I Samuel 1:11, 17.
5. Intercession: Bringing the needs of others to God, praying for others. Hebrews 7:25, I Timothy 2:1, Romans 8:26, 27, 34.