

WHAT IS PRAYER?

Talking to God

January 16, 2022

Luke 11:1

One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples

What is prayer?

1. Prayer is talking with our _____.

John 15:15 (NIV)

I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, **I have called you friends**, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.

Always meant to be friends:

Genesis 3:8-9

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. [9] But the Lord God called to the man, "Where are you?"

In the Garden

I come to the garden alone,
While the dew is still on the roses;
And the voice I hear, falling on my ear,
The Son of God discloses.
And He walks with me, and He talks with me.
And He tells me I am His own,
And the joy we share as we tarry there,
None other has ever known.

C. Austin Miles 1868-1946

2. Prayer is a _____ asking for help from his/her Father.

Born into God's Family:

John 1:12

Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God

Invited to call Him "Father"

Matthew 6:9

'Our Father who art in heaven...

To become a more mature son/daughter in God's family is to become _____ dependent on Him.

John 15:5

"I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me, and I in him, he bears much fruit; for apart from Me you can do nothing.

James 4:2

*You want something but don't get it. You kill and covet, but you cannot have what you want. You quarrel and fight. **You do not have, because you do not ask God.***

To decide to take care of oneself instead of depending on God isn't maturity. It is _____!

How our Father responds to our dependence:

John 15:7

If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you.

"God never shuts His storehouses until you shut your mouth."

C.H. Spurgeon

3. Prayer is an _____ representing their _____.

John 20:21

Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you."

2 Corinthians 5:20a

We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us.

The #1 most effective way of representing God and getting victory over the enemy: _____

Jesus promises if we pray as His ambassadors:

John 14:13-14

And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. [14] You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

John 15:7

If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you.

John 15:16

You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit--fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name.

John 16:24

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

An issue I need to talk to God about this week: