

Prayer—Important points in prayer



What is prayer?

Simply communicating with our God

Communication is the key to an intimate relationship.
But not just communication –effective communication!

Unless we engage in prayer it won't make any difference

Tell me; I'll forget. Show me; I may remember. But involve me and I'll understand. Chinese proverb.

Effective praying is possible for all of us, when we understand these important points about prayer.

1) Know that we have instant access

Queen Esther needs to go before the King of Persia and plea for the safety of her people. Those who do that with out being called die - unless the king puts out his golden septa - which he does for her and he listens and her people are safe.

Our God does not have limited accessibility to His courts

Our God has his ears tuned to the prayers of his people

“Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need” Hebrews 4:16

Why is it that we can approach with confidence - because of Jesus, we come as children of God

“Yet to all who received Him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God” John 1:13

It is not something that we do when we are desperate and have a need - it is something we do all the time

2) We must be Persistent

“be joyful always, and pray continuously” 1 Thessalonians 5: 16-17

It is about cultivating a life of prayer

Frustration causes us to give up on praying sometimes and we stop praying - don't give up - be joyful and persistent in prayer

Don't let outwards circumstances affect your inward assurance

Luke 18 :1-8 Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up. He said:

“In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor cared about men. And there was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, ‘Grant me justice against my adversary.’ “For some time he refused. But finally he said to himself, ‘Even though I don't fear God or care about men, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she gets justice, so that she won't eventually wear me out with her coming!’ ” And the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? I tell you, he will see that they get justice, and quickly.”

3) We must be Committed

“Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful” Colossians 4:2

“Devote yourselves to prayer”

God wants commitment

To be earnest, to be steadfast, to be unwearied

We need to value our times if prayer

“The earnest, heartfelt, continued prayer of a righteous man, or woman, makes tremendous power available, dynamic in its working!” James 5:16

Key areas for praying with Christine Pheeney in Ache

- access and relationship with God, that they can talk to god with their hearts - and that the access and relationship is for them.

“Being Watchful”

To be vigilant, to be alert, to be intent in our praying.

The Lord wants us to be alert and aware of what He is desiring...
We often pray not my will but your will be done - but are we listening to his answer?

*How God showed Christine to live a balanced life
When terrorism started in Ache - what this the end of her time?
God showed her a new routine - Stay home by dark this allows more time to pray and
feed herself ready for the next day.*



"And Thankful"

"We give thanks to you O God, we give thanks, for your Name is near, men will tell of your wonderful deeds" Psalm 75:1

*Christine - started a night of praise - verbally, listing it, read the word.
In daily conversations Christine starts saying "praise be to God" 'opens up numerous opportunities to talk about God.*

He is our Father – lets not take God's provision and answered prayer for granted.
When was the last time you prayed for something - and when he delivered on the prayer did you turn it back to praise.

Everyone of us can have an effective prayer life, when

- We know we have instant access
- When we are persistent
- When we are committed