
Antioch Christian Church Wednesday Night Bible Study

Week #1 –Biblical Foundation for Prayer

1. Prayer defined – To ask; to petition; to entreat, **1 John 5:14-14**, *“And this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us: and if we know that He hears us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desire of Him.”*

Simple Definition – Prayer is **two- way** communication with God. Prayer is not complete until you hear from God.

2. **What is the purpose of prayer?**

- a. Prayer gives God the authority to intervene on man’s behalf in the natural realm. **Luke 10:2; John 14:15-16**
- b. Prayer opens the door for God to fill us with spiritual wisdom, knowledge and understanding.
- c. Prayer gives us access to the knowledge of His Will. **Colossians 1:9**
- d. Prayer gives us access into the heavens where we can fellowship with God. **Revelation 1:10**
- e. Through prayer, believers are able to repent and be restored to a right relationship with God. **Psalm 51**

3. **What is the power of prayer?**

The authority of Almighty God to answer any request given to Him that agrees with His Word and His Will. **James 5:16**

NOTE: We must always focus on God the Father who is being prayed to and not what is being prayed for. God has all authority in His hands.

When we pray to Him, we tap into His power which is ALL!

4. **When we pray, we tap into the supernatural power to:**

- a. Change our environment. **James 5:16**
- b. Heal every disease no matter what stage it is in. **James 5:16; 2 Kings 20:1**
- c. Destroy enemies that we can see and enemies we cannot see. **Psalm 6:9-10; Mark 9:29**

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- d. Protect loved ones near and far. **Genesis 18:17, 19:22**
- e. Reveal secrets: God can allow you to know things before they occur to save others. **Daniel 2:20**
- f. Conquer death. **2 Kings 4:3-36**

Applying the Word: Answer the following questions in your study time.

Prayer is not complete until _____.

According to John 16:23, 24 answer the following questions:

- a) To whom do we pray? _____
- b) In whose name do we pray? _____

According to 1 John 5:14, 15 answer the following questions:

- a) How can we know God hears us?

- b) If we know God hears us, what can we expect?

According to 2 Chronicles 7:14, before we pray what must we do?

What are effectual, fervent prayers according to James 5:16?

What did the Holy Spirit speak to you tonight? How will you apply?