

# Talking with God



## ● Pray in the name of Jesus

\* John Ch 16: v 23-24

If we ask in the name of Jesus, we will \_\_\_\_\_

Asking in the name of Jesus is not just tagging words onto the end of a prayer. It is like doing a task in the *name of the King* — we have all the authority of the King behind us to carry out the task. As we pray, we have no righteousness of our own but we come to the Father with all the righteousness and authority of Jesus. The Father hears his Son — so he hears us as we pray in his name!

## ● Pray in the power of the Holy Spirit

Obviously, we need to pray for the things which God wants. We can know the will of God for many things *by reading the Bible*, but we often need to know *how to pray in a particular situation*. The Holy Spirit can help here.

\* Romans Ch 8: v 26-27

How does the Holy Spirit pray for us?

- \_\_\_\_\_(v 26)
- \_\_\_\_\_(v 27)

\* Romans Ch 8: v 34

Who else intercedes for us? \_\_\_\_\_

## ● Pray in faith

\* James Ch 1: v 5-8

\* James Ch 5: v 13-18

Believe God. Doubt will not bring you answers to prayer. Christians sometimes *fast and pray* for particular things.

## ● I'm listening Lord

...Two Way



Prayer should be two way communication. Give God time to speak to you! Wait quietly before him and allow him to lead your thoughts. He may show you that something is wrong in your life, he may tell you to do something or he could lead you to read a part of the Bible.

If God is speaking to you, you should *do what he says*. It is a good idea to *write down* what you feel God is telling you to do. If you are in doubt that it is God speaking, give him more time or talk to someone who can advise you.

If you wish to get to know someone better, you need to spend time with them, talk with them and share your life with them. So it is with God and *prayer* should spring from our desire to know him better.

Prayer is:

- Being aware of God.
- Sharing with God.
- Talking to God.
- Listening to God.

## ● I'm sorry Lord

...Tuning in

If you want to communicate with God, there must be no blockage between you and him.

What can separate people from God? \_\_\_\_\_

\* Luke Ch 18: v 9-14

How should we approach God? \_\_\_\_\_

If there are things in the way between you and God, tell him about them, say you are sorry, ask for forgiveness and claim his strength for the future. Remember that Jesus died to take away your sins and is risen to give you power for living.

\* Isaiah Ch 1: v 15-18

Make sure God is listening!

## ● I love you Lord

...Worship

In order to maintain and develop our relationship with God, we should express to him our love, our respect and our trust. The *Psalms* are full of declarations about the goodness and greatness of the Lord.

\* **Psalm 145** (Read alternate verses with your helper or read round.)  
 How often did David praise the Lord? \_\_\_\_\_(v 2)

What does David say about God?

- \_\_\_\_\_(v 4-6)
- \_\_\_\_\_(v 7)
- \_\_\_\_\_(v 8-9)
- \_\_\_\_\_(v 11-13)
- \_\_\_\_\_(v 13b)
- \_\_\_\_\_(v 14)
- \_\_\_\_\_(v 18)

As well as the Psalms, there are many other hymns and songs which you can sing in praise to God. As you pray, praise him for his power, his knowledge, his justice, his love. If you run out of words, allow the Holy Spirit to lead you — many have found that speaking and singing in tongues help.

\* **Ephesians Ch 5: v 18-20**

\* **1 Corinthians Ch 14: v 14-17**

### Variety

You can pray **kneeling, sitting, standing or walking** around the room. Christians often **raise their hands, clap, shout, sing and dance** to express their wholehearted love for God. You will often find it helpful to pray aloud, but at other times you may wish to consider **silently** the majesty of God. Be flexible and learn to praise in many ways.



### ● *I am so grateful Lord*

...Thanking

\* **Psalm 100: v 4**    \* **Psalm 147: v 7-9**

Don't forget to thank God for his goodness to you and others.

- Give thanks for:
- Food, clothes, home, health, pleasures.
  - Family and friends.
  - God's blessing on your life and answered prayer.
  - Jesus — his life, death and resurrection.

\* **1 Thessalonians Ch 5: v 16-18**

When should we be **joyful**? \_\_\_\_\_

When should we **pray**? \_\_\_\_\_

When should we **give thanks**? \_\_\_\_\_

Our aim should be to walk close to God at all times with grateful and joyful hearts. You can pray secretly to God at any time — at work, at home, in an exam — anywhere!

### ● *Please Lord*

...Asking

\* **Matthew Ch 6: v 5-15**

How shouldn't we pray? \_\_\_\_\_(v 5)

How should we pray? \_\_\_\_\_(v 6)

You will find it helpful to *put aside time each day* to spend with God, praying and reading the Bible. Pray in a natural way (v 7) as you would speak to a friend.



What did Jesus say we should pray for?

- \_\_\_\_\_(v 10)
- \_\_\_\_\_(v 11)
- \_\_\_\_\_(v 12)
- \_\_\_\_\_(v 13)

• *Also pray for:*

- Your family and friends.
- The people in your church and especially the leaders.
- The healing of sick people.
- Those who don't know God — that they might believe.
- Those in trouble.
- Your government (*1 Timothy Ch 2: v 1-4*).

### ● *Intercession — pleading with God*

There are several occasions in the Bible when people plead with God to change his mind — and indeed he does!

\* **Exodus Ch 32: v 9-14**

Like a lawyer in court, Moses presents his case before God. We too can intercede for other people in this way.

\* **Luke Ch 18: v 1-8**

*Don't give up — keep praying!*

\* **Colossians Ch 4: v 12-13**

How did Epaphras pray? \_\_\_\_\_

What did he pray? \_\_\_\_\_