

## Lesson 21: Teaching on Prayer

Objective: To know that prayer is more than a transaction -we ask and God answers; it is a conversation - two talking together.

Background: Jesus came to *reveal who God is* (Mt. 11 :27). He calls God "my Father" and teaches the disciples (believers) to call Him "Abba, Father." In so doing, Jesus removes prayer from liturgy and places it in the setting of daily family life. It is a privilege of every believer to talk to God like a child talks to his/her father. Our heavenly Father talks to us through His Word and we talk to Him in prayer.

Instruction: Read Luke 11 :1-13; 18:1-8. Please read first carefully the scriptures listed under each exercise and write in your own words what each teaches about prayer. And then use the questions to examine your prayer life.

Let's Think: Please also review Lesson 11.

1. Write what you learned from Luke 18:1; 22:4; 1 Thessalonians 5:17; Romans 12:12.  
Think: Do I converse with the heavenly Father *daily* or only in case of personal need?  
Do you find it difficult to have a daily prayer time? If so, why? Do you let your mood dictate your prayer life?
2. Write what you learned from Luke 11 :9-13; Matthew 6:7, 8.  
Think: Before you pray, ask yourself, is my request specific? Do I expect an answer?  
Have I done my part of "seeking and knocking" besides "asking?"
3. Write what you learned from Mark 11 :25; 1 John 1 :5- 7; Psalms 66: 18.  
Think: What is my spiritual condition at this moment, my *relationship* to the heavenly Father?  
Is there anything in my life that would hinder my prayer from being heard? Am I willing to put it right?
4. Write what you learned from Matthew 5:5, 6; John 14: 13; 15:7, 8; 1 John 3:22; 5: 14; Mark 11 :24; Hebrews 11 :6; James 5:16; 4:3.  
Think: Am I fulfilling the condition of effectual prayer? Can the heavenly Father grant my request? Is my prayer selfish?
5. Write what you learned from Matthew 6:9-13; John 17:1; Matthew 26:38, 39.  
Think: Do I consider the heavenly Father's interest and glory in my prayer? Is my prayer characterized by "my will" be done or "Thy will" be done? Is it easy to pray "Thy will be done"?  
If not, why?
6. What do you think is the point of the parables "The Friends at Midnight" and "The Unjust Judge" (Luke 11 :5-8; Luke 18: 1-8)? Should you expect prayer to be easy or should you expect to have some difficulty? Explain (Ephesians 6:12).
7. Is your prayer life what it ought to be in the light of this study? If not, wherein lies the problem(s)? and the solution(s)? Be specific!

Let's Remember: And I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be open to you. (Luke 11 :9).