

Taking your Spirituality to the Next Level

PRAYER

February 27th, 2011

PRAYER is EXPECTED.

- Jesus Tells Us To Pray

Matthew 6:5-9 When you pray, don't be like the hypocrites who love to pray publicly on street corners and in the synagogues where everyone can see them. I tell you the truth, that is all the reward they will ever get. ⁶ But when you pray, go away by yourself, shut the door behind you, and pray to your Father in private. Then your Father, who sees everything, will reward you. ⁷ When you pray, don't babble on and on as people of other religions do. They think their prayers are answered merely by repeating their words again and again. ⁸ Don't be like them, for your Father knows exactly what you need even before you ask him! ⁹ Pray like this: vs. 9-13

Luke 11:5-8; Luke 11:9 So I say to you: Ask...; seek...; knock.

Luke 18:1 One day Jesus told his disciples a story to show that they should always pray and never give up. **vs. 2-8**

- God's Word Tells Us To Pray

Colossians 4:2 Devote yourselves to prayer with an alert mind and a thankful heart.

1 Thessalonians 5:17 Never stop praying.

Luke 5:16 But Jesus often withdrew to the wilderness for prayer.

John 15:5 Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing.

PRAYER is LEARNED...

...by Praying

John 16:13 When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth.

...by Meditating on Scripture

Psalms 5:1 O LORD, hear me as I pray; pay attention to my "meditation"

Psalms 19:14 May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing to you, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

...by Praying with Others

Luke 11:1 Once Jesus was in a certain place praying. As he finished, one of his disciples came to him and said, "Lord, teach us to pray"

Matthew 6:7 When you pray, don't babble on and on as people of other religions do. They think their prayers are answered merely by repeating their words again and again.

...by Reading about Prayer

Proverbs 27:17 As iron sharpens iron, so a friend sharpens a friend.

Proverbs 13:20 Walk with the wise and become wise; associate with fools and get in trouble.

PRAYER is ANSWERED!

Psalm 65:2 For you answer our prayers.

Matthew 7:7-8 Keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you. ⁸ For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened.

Romans 11:33 Oh, how great are God's riches and wisdom and knowledge! How impossible it is for us to understand his decisions and his ways!

Since prayer is...
...EXPECTED, will you PRAY?
...is LEARNED, will you learn to PRAY?
...is ANSWERED, will you persistently PRAY?