

King James Bible Study Correspondence Course

An Outreach of Highway Evangelistic Ministries
5311 Windridge lane ~ Lockhart, Florida 32810 ~ USA

Filling in the Gaps
Lesson 31A
8 Types of Biblical Prayer

return pages 6 & 7

We are starting this Bible Lesson in 1 Timothy 2:1-2 ***I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.***

Before we get into this lesson, we just want to start by saying that we do not believe that God toys with people. He has never put anything in the Bible that would mislead us; and the idea that prayer is a vain exercise does not reflect the character of a Holy God and is not scriptural. Why would He give us all of these admonitions to pray? Why would He give us examples of answered prayer if He was not going to listen or did not care? He does care. In fact, He has a plan and a purpose for our lives, and it would help us to find out what that is by spending more time in prayer and in His word (2 Timothy 1:9). Many verses in the Bible urge us to bring our burdens, cares, and troubles to the Lord. Prayer does matter; it does make a difference. We should praise Him and thank Him that He invites us to come to Him in prayer. Hebrews 4:16 ***Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.***

Go back to 1 Timothy 2:1-2 and Let us look at these in order ***supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks*** Supplication by definition is an entreaty; it is a petition, an earnest request. We are asking God to supply a particular need.

Philippians 4:6 ***Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.*** Do not let those little interruptions in your life seem as nothing, because all those little things can eventually add up to one big thing and can take your joy and break your heart, hindering your close walk with the Lord. Bring everything to God in prayer. ***Be careful for nothing; but in every thing*** see the contrast in the wording, (every thing - nothing) ***every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.*** The Lord wants you to come to Him and ask. Matthew 7:7 ***Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.***

Those are not vain or mocking words. This is an invitation from the Lord Jesus Christ. Is there something you want, something you desire, "Ask me and see". If something was lost in your home, you would not just glance in one direction and then give up. You would search diligently, even in places

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you knew it would not be. You would look twice and maybe three or four times. The definition of seek implies you continue to look until you find what you are looking for. The Lord is encouraging us along those same lines. Don't just ask but keep asking, then look in the Scripture. Your answer may be there.

- Supplication: Think of the word supply. Is there something that God can supply? Is there something you lack in your life? Have you been to God about your need?

Before you start thinking, "*You mean I can pray and ask God to give me the winning lotto numbers?*" Look at James 4:2 ***Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not.***

The offer of supplication is still available from God, but not so you can consume it upon your lusts. God wants you to ask, but if you do not ask, how are you going to see if God will supply?

Look at the prayers in the New Testament. They are filled with supplications and with requests. Only one of them is for something material, all the rest are for something spiritual. Most of us can thank God we have a home, income, plenty of food, good clothing, and good health. If something happened to our comforts, we would go to God in prayer instantly and fervently. The Lord is waiting for us to go to Him with some more serious concerns. Has He never heard from you about your temper, your attitude, your lack of zeal, love, joy, or peace? It's a funny thing, when there's a material need, we don't need to be urged to pray about it, but when there's a spiritual need, we have to be prompted, urged, and preached at. Sickness or the lack of material things will get us to His throne in a heartbeat. If there is a need in our marriage, in raising our children, or a need in our spiritual life, who would you go to?

- Prayer, in a general sense, is the act of asking for a favor, and particularly with earnestness; general communication and fellowship with God.

James 5:16 ***Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.*** We may come boldly to the throne of grace and say to God, "*You told me that my fervent prayer would affect the situation.*" There have been hundreds of books written about God's protection, His healing power, His changing the decisions of Government officials, etc. This list of the things God

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has done will go on for eternity because of the fervent prayers from one of His children. Look at this verse again and notice the statement *that ye may be healed*. This word "ye" is plural. When we *pray one for another*, we too reap the benefit. God wants to be in constant communication with us. He would like to hear from us just to talk, not always to hear a list of gimme's. He would like the joy of just communication, just fellowship. He is a friend that sticks closer than a brother. God is called Our Father. This implies more than a vending machine God, or an *I want it now Lord in Jesus name relationship*. Remember when you met your spouse? You spent hours just talking together; and when you were not together, you were talking on the phone. If you were apart, you were writing letters or texting, anything to be close. You can talk to God that same way. *Wow Lord, that sky, that sunset, that sure is beautiful. What You made - the skies - turn all these different colors. Wow! That is really amazing! Thank you, Lord.*

- Intercession is our third type and is defined as the act of interposing between parties at variance with a view to reconciliation; prayer or solicitation to one party in favor of another, coming before God on behalf of someone else.

So many of our prayers should really be for others, not for ourselves; for those families, not my family; for my brothers and my sisters in Christ and their needs, not me and my needs.

Romans 1:8-10 *First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all, that your faith is spoken of throughout the whole world. For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of his Son, that without ceasing I make mention of you always in my prayers; Making request, if by any means now at length I might have a prosperous journey by the will of God to come unto you.* As we read these verses, notice the phrase - *without ceasing*. The apostle is praying without ceasing for the believers at Rome.

It is so easy for Christians to talk about the failures and shortcomings of other Christians. Talking about them always causes harm both to them and to you. Why would it cause harm to you? Because it creates in you a negative belief in your heart of that brother or sister. Remember the verse that says Matthew 12:34 *O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh.* You do not want to be associated with this class of people. Satan is an accuser of the brethren. As Christians, we do not need to be part of his crowd. Why not pray for them instead? Every Christian has areas in his or her life where he or she comes short of the glory of God, short of what Jesus Christ wants him or her to be. How about praying for your brothers and sisters in Christ, about their

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shortcomings, needs, and failures? Those are the prayers we read about in Romans, Philippians, Ephesians, and Colossians. We ought to be doing that instead of putting them down or criticizing them. Guess what, they might be thinking the same about you. Let's ask God to strengthen them, enlighten them, help them, enable them, or build them up in their most holy faith.

It really is easy to walk away from a congregation of people that are full of faults and failures, but it's really hard to walk away from a group of friends for whom you're praying. Prayer does something very remarkable to people - it just draws people closer when - they're praying one for another. It really does. We want others to think the best of us, yes? What would you do if someone had a failure or a shortcoming or need? I would hope you would take it to God in prayer. We should want God to build others up and make them even better than what they already are. These are our brothers and sisters; we are members of one family. Why would we go around telling each other how rotten the members of our family are? Instead of complaining about them and how they failed in this area or that, let's ask God to strengthen and build them up. God is not pleased when we tear down a brother or sister. We are told to bear one another's burdens and take on one another's needs. (Galatians 6:2)

(Read this prayer in Ephesians 1:15-23) Does that sound like how you pray for the people you go to church with?

Those of you that came from a Catholic background know about praying out of a book of prayers. Well, you are no longer Catholics, you are Christians, born again children of God, who have been instructed to **Pray without ceasing**, 1 Thessalonians 5:17. God gives us a book of prayers to work with - the Bible. Take the prayers of the New Testament to God and plug in the names of your brothers and sisters in Christ. God will always honor the use of His word to act as a stepping stone of request in prayer.

- Thanksgiving is our fourth type and is defined as rendering thanks for good received.

Look at this from God's point of view: if somebody asked Him 25 times for something, then He gave it to them, and they only thanked Him once, that would surely not be pleasing to Him. If, after you pray to God for something for two years then He answers, how about thanking Him for another two years before asking Him for something else? When I was a child, my grandmother would send a birthday card every year, enclosed was a dollar. My mother would not let me spend it until I had written a letter to my grandmother thanking her for the gift.

It is sad that people tend to think that when they receive a gift, it is owed to them because of who they are. Our ministry has given out thousands of Bibles in its 29 years of being in existence, and yet has only received thank-

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yous from about 10%. The Lord has told us in His word about the ungratefulness of most people. (Luke 17:12-15). Remember we are to be different; we are the children of God. Say thank you immediately upon receiving a gift or an answer to prayer. It will help you in your prayer life.

The Book of Psalms has numerous quotes of the use of thanksgiving, here are a few:

Psalm 69:30 *I will praise the name of God with a song, and will magnify him with thanksgiving.*

Psalm 95:2 *Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms.*

Psalm 100:4 *Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.*

Psalm 147:7 *Sing unto the LORD with thanksgiving; sing praise upon the harp unto our God:*

Philippians 4:6 *Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.* Most Christians would be thrilled to have the peace of God. Well, it is attainable. Look at verse 7, *And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.*

The Bible tells us that there are benefits that come from being thankful to God.

Colossians 2:7 *Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.*

Colossians 4:2 *Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving;*

Next time you are singing a hymn, don't just read the words, pray them in your heart to God with praise and thanksgiving. He definitely deserves our thanksgiving.

Make sure you do Lesson 31B for type 5, 6, 7 & 8

Notes

KJV

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8 Types of Biblical Prayer

Name _____

Note: (*) An asterisk indicates must include scripture with your answers.

1. What are the four types of prayer? *
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
 - d.
2. Does God care about prayer? *
Give an example
 - a.
3. What is the result of leading a prayerful life?
4. What do you think of when you hear the word "supplication"?
5. What is prayer?
6. What is the importance of the word "ye" in James 5:16?
7. What type of prayer favors one another?

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8. Instead of talking about another brother or sister's faults, what should we be doing? *
9. What happens to you when you talk about other people?
10. According to this Bible Lesson, examples of praying for others are shown in what books of the Bible?
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
 - d.
11. Where in scripture are we told to bear one another's burdens? *
12. Where do we see in scripture the ungratefulness in most who live in this world? *
13. Explain the significance of "ever thing - nothing" in Philippians 4:6. (Put your answer on the back of this page.)

True/false

- It is not necessary for me to thank God for answered prayer because I have had such a rough life, and He owes me.
- Our prayer should be for others.
- We should talk to God like a good friend throughout the day.



Scripture memorization

1 Timothy 2:1-2; Philippians 4:6; Matthew 12:34

Write out these verses on the back on this page: (must be in KJV)

any questions?