

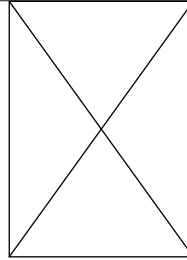
# C O N T E N T S

Introduction	i
Recommended Lessons	ii
I. Basic Doctrine	
<b>THE HOLY SPIRIT</b>	<b>1</b>
II. Bible Character	
<b>JESUS CHRIST: A MAN OF PRAYER</b>	<b>9</b>
III. Bible Study	
<b>THE LORD'S PRAYER</b>	<b>13</b>
IV. Bible Study	
<b>II TIMOTHY</b>	<b>19</b>
V. Christian Living	
<b>PRAYER:</b>	
<b>THE BREATH OF OUR SPIRITUAL LIFE</b>	<b>25</b>
VI. Christian Living	
<b>PRAYER WITH UNDERSTANDING</b>	<b>33</b>
VII. Christian Living	
<b>PRAYER OF THE SAINTS</b>	<b>37</b>

*“Therefore, if any one is in Christ,  
he is a new creation;  
the old has passed away, behold,  
the new has come.”*

(2 Cor 5:17)

*H*allelujah! Praise God for the new life that he has given us at the cost of shedding his precious blood. The moment we received baptism, we left our old self and began a new life which belongs to the One who paid a ransom for our sins. Thus, we call Jesus our “Lord” because we are no longer our own. However, how do we carry on with our new lives in an acceptable manner to God? The Bible supplies us with plenty of answers to this question. We hope that through each Student Spiritual Convocation, we can learn as much as possible concerning how to live for Christ.



About Book 1:

# *A Life of Prayer*

*“I call upon thee,  
for thou wilt answer me, O God;  
incline thy ear to me,  
hear my words.”  
(Psalm 17:6)*

**Prayer has been spoken of as the very breath of spiritual life.** Without it, we are powerless, unable to be filled with the fullness of God’s Spirit. Prayer is a Christian’s way of communicating with God. Through it, we can praise, confess, petition, intercede and give thanks to the Lord for his unfailing love and mercy. The Bible records the prayers of many of the saints which demonstrate its power and how it can change lives and even

nations. Moses prayed on behalf of the Israelites time and again; Jesus prayed for all sinners; Paul continually interceded for the churches. We, too, can learn from these examples so that prayer is not only a privilege but becomes an integral part of our spiritual lives. Hopefully, through these lessons, we can all come to lead a true life of prayer.

## **SIX-BOOK SERIES**

### *Student Spiritual Convocation*

**Book 1**

**A Life of Prayer**

Book 2

A Life of Love

Book 3

A Life of Servitude

Book 4

Living in the Words of God

Book 5

Living in Holiness

Book 6

Family Life

**All Bible quotations are in RSV.**

# Recommended Lessons for Each Level

## Elementary 2

1. Holy Spirit
2. Jesus Christ: A Man of Prayer
3. Prayer: The Breath of Our Spiritual Life

## Junior 1 & 2

1. Holy Spirit
2. The Lord's Prayer
3. Prayer: The Breath of Our Spiritual Life
4. Prayer With Understanding

## Senior

1. Holy Spirit
2. II Timothy
3. Prayer With Understanding
4. Prayer of the Saints

## A Word to the Instructors:

### LESSON PLANS

We recommend the above lessons for each respective class level. If you would like to use lessons other than those recommended, please make appropriate modifications when necessary.

### ASSIGNMENTS/QUIZZES

Please be reminded that the purpose of assignments and quizzes is NOT to keep your students busy. Rather, they serve as a tool to reinforce what you have taught them and a way to assess how much your students know about the subject. Therefore, be sure to give your students feedback, as soon as possible, on all the assignments and quizzes so that they may learn from their work.

### QUESTIONS

Questions are provided at the end of each lesson. These are divided into three levels of difficulty. Questions in Level 1 are informational and students can usually find the answers from reading the text. Questions in Level 2 require some explanation. Questions in Level 3 involve analysis, comparison, or application. Depending on the class level you are teaching, you may use any combination of questions from each difficulty level. We advise that you assign more Level 1 and 2 questions to Elementary 2 students and more Level 2 and 3 questions for older students.

Every lesson can be tailored to a specific class depending on how you mix and match the questions.

### GROUP DISCUSSION/ACTIVITY

We encourage the students to be involved in the class as much as possible through group discussions. If possible, you may ask other instructors or adult counselors to participate in the group discussions as well. Group reports or presentations can help your students remember the material better. At the same time, they provide opportunities to foster fellowship and cooperative learning.

If the group discussion or activity is not possible for any reason, you may modify it into an individual writing assignment.





3. Fulfillment of the prophecies

- a. After a drought which lasted for three and a half years, rain resumed in the time of Elijah. This event typifies how the Holy Spirit would come again after a period of silence (1 Kgs 18).
- b. According to his promises and prophecies, the "latter rain" Holy Spirit has already come in the end-time. Those who believe in the name and salvation of Jesus Christ and ask for the Holy Spirit will receive it. God is reviving and expanding his church to the likeness of the early church by those who are filled with the Holy Spirit (Is 58:12; Amos 9:11; Zech 10:1). This church in the end-time is the true church, the body of Christ.
- c. The splendor and glory of the true church in the end-time will be greater than those of the former temple (Hag 2:9; Ezek 47:1-7).
- d. The church, which comes from the east, is sealed with the Holy Spirit and will spread the true Gospel throughout the world (Rev 7:2-4; 14:1-5; Mt 24:14).

N O T E S



III. THE IMPORTANCE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

A. THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN RECEIVING THE HOLY SPIRIT AND SALVATION

- 1. To enter the kingdom of God, we must be reborn by the Holy Spirit (Jn 3:5; Tit 3:5).
- 2. The Holy Spirit gives us eternal life (Rev 22:17; Jn 4:14; Ezek 37:14).
- 3. The Holy Spirit confirms that we are the children of God (Rom 8:15, 16; Gal 4:6, 7).
- 4. The Holy Spirit is the guarantee of the Heavenly Kingdom (Eph 1:13, 14; 2 Cor 1:20-22).

B. THE WORKS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN A CHRISTIAN'S LIFE

- 1. Enables us to know the Lord Jesus (1 Cor 12:3; Acts 16:14; Mt 16:16, 17).
- 2. Convicts us of sins (Jn 16:7, 8; Acts 2:37).
- 3. Reveals the truth (Jn 16:12, 13; 1 Cor 2:11).
- 4. Prays for the saints (Rom 8:25, 27).
- 5. Gives strength and power (Acts 1:8; 13:9-12; Lk 24:49).
- 6. Helps us bear spiritual fruit (Gal 5:22, 23, Rev 22:1, 2).









**D. SATAN OFTEN DISGUISES HIMSELF AS AN ANGEL OF LIGHT AND TRIES TO CONFUSE THE TRUTH AND THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. WE SHOULD PRAY FOR THE GIFT OF SPIRITUAL DISCERNMENT TO GUARD AGAINST THE DEVIL'S ATTACK.**

**VI. QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION**

- 1a. List the three (3) ways the Holy Spirit worked in the Old Testament and provide an example for each.
- 1b. When were the prophecies concerning the first coming of the Holy Spirit finally fulfilled?
- 1c. What does the word "rain" symbolize?
- 1d. List five (5) ways the Holy Spirit works in a Christian's life.
- 2a. What is the relationship between the Holy Spirit and our salvation?
- 2b. What is the difference between receiving the Holy Spirit and just being moved by it?
- 2c. What are the evidence of having received the Holy Spirit?
- 2d. Explain the difference between the "early" and "latter rain". What is the significance of the "latter rain" for us?

**N O T E S**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



- 3a. What was God's purpose for sending his Spirit to certain people in the Old Testament period? Did it have anything to do with their salvation?
- 3b. Why did the Holy Spirit cease to come at the end of the apostolic era? What can we learn from this event?
- 3c. What is the significance of speaking in spiritual tongues?
- 3d. How can we distinguish whether someone has received the Holy Spirit or has been possessed?

**GROUP DISCUSSION/ACTIVITY**

**PRAYING IN THE SPIRIT**  
 Objective: to demonstrate the understanding of the doctrine of the baptism of the Holy Spirit through role-playing.

1. Write the following scenario onto index cards or write it on the board.

**Person 1:**  
 (non-TJC member) The prayer just now was really loud and it sounded kind of scary. Do you guys always pray like that?

**Person 2:** (TJC member):  
 Yes, we pray in tongue.

**Person 1:**  
 Why do you do that? What's wrong with just talking to God with regular English?

**Person 2:**

Continue this conversation...

2. Have each student pair up with a partner, preferably someone they haven't worked with very often.
3. Then ask each pair to role-play the situation that has been outlined. They can use their imagination but remind them to remember what they have learned. They will have 5 minutes. Also ask them to record any unanswered questions.
4. The instructor should walk around to monitor the conversations to ensure that they are on track and to provide assistance.
5. After the time is up, ask the students to gather together and debrief the activity. As a large group, brainstorm some answers they can provide to truth-seekers or friends in the future who may ask about speaking in tongues. Encourage all the students to participate.
6. Conclude and pray.

**N O T E S**



Since the beginning of his ministry, the life of Jesus was filled with constant prayers. We can see the intimate relationship between the Heavenly Father and his Son as time and space did not constrain Jesus from praying. Now, let us learn from the prayers of Jesus at four different locations.

### I. JESUS PRAYED IN THE WILDERNESS

Entering into a place of peace and tranquility, Jesus constantly communed alone with God in secrecy (Ps 91:1; Is 30:15; 63:1, 5, 6).

#### A. JESUS PRAYED BEFORE DAYBREAK (MK 1:35) AND HIS DESIRE RESULTED IN LESS SLEEP (PS 73:25).

#### B. AWAY FROM THE MULTITUDE (LK 5:15, 16)

1. He realized that glory and admiration from men was not beneficial (Prov 25:27; 28:21).
2. Prayers offered to God served as the real source of blessing and power.

#### C. BEFORE THE TEMPTATION (MT 4:1-11)

1. It is a process of cultivation for workers of God to discipline their minds and offer long, fasting prayers (Dt 9:18).



### N O T E S

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

2. Fasting and praying with the correct attitude enables a person to grow spiritually and to overcome the attacks and temptations of Satan (Lk 2:36, 37; Mt 17:19-21).

### II. JESUS PRAYED IN THE MOUNTAINS

We should uplift ourselves to a spiritual plateau, drawing closer to God (Ex 24:1, 2; Rev 8:3, 4) and transcend our focus from the world to enter the realm of the Spirit (Heb 3:1-3).

#### A. BEFORE WALKING ON THE SEA

1. "Jesus went up on the mountain by himself to pray" till the fourth watch (Mt 14:22-24).
2. At the completion of a holy work, we need to withdraw ourselves and pray for the fullness of the Holy Spirit (1 Kgs 19:1-8).
3. It was after long prayer that Jesus gained such great power to walk on the sea (i.e. transcended the world) and to perform miracles (Mt 14:25, 34-36).

#### B. ALL NIGHT LONG

1. "Jesus went out to the mountain to pray;



**V. "TEACH US HOW TO PRAY"  
(LK 11:1)**

- A. WITH ALL SINCERITY, ENTER INTO THE INNER ROOM AND SHUT THE DOOR (MT 6:5-6)**
- B. PRAY FIRST FOR THE KINGDOM OF GOD AND HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS (MT 6:31-33)**
- C. PRAY, SEEK AND KNOCK ON THE DOOR (MT 7:7)**
- D. PRAY WITH IMPORTUNITY (LK 11:8)**
- E. NEVER BE DISCOURAGED (LK 18:1-8)**
- F. PRAY WITH REPENTANCE AND HUMILITY (LK 18:9-14)**
- G. THE LORD'S PRAYER (MT 6:9-13)**
- H. PRAY WITH A PERFECT SUPPLICATION FOR OTHERS (JN 17:1-26)**

**VI. QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION**

- 1a. Why did Jesus often choose to pray by himself and away from the crowds?
- 1b. Why did Jesus choose to pray in the mountains?
- 1c. Look up the following references that point out other times in Jesus' life when he prayed. Write down a brief summary of each occasion and the reasons why he prayed: **Lk 3:21-22**     **Mt 4:1-2**  
**Lk 5:16**             **Lk 10:21**

**N O T E S**

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

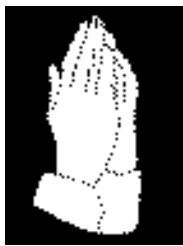
.....

.....

.....

.....

.....



.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

- 2a. Can you think of another person who prayed in the wilderness? What circumstance was he or she facing at the time? What was the outcome of the prayer?
- 2b. Can you think of another person who prayed in the mountains? What happened during that time?
- 2c. Who else was praying with Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane? What was their attitude toward prayer at that time?
- 3a. Jesus prayed on the cross and cried out, "My God, my God, why has thou forsaken me?". What was so unique about this prayer as compared to his other prayers?
- 3b. We know that Jesus is God himself manifested in the flesh. Why then did Jesus have to pray since he was the almighty God?
- 3c. Look at section V "TEACH US HOW TO PRAY" and select one area in which you would like to improve on. Briefly describe why you chose it and how you plan to improve .
- 3d. Jesus taught us many things about how and when to pray with his examples. Discuss one of them and share how it also applies in your life.

.....

.....

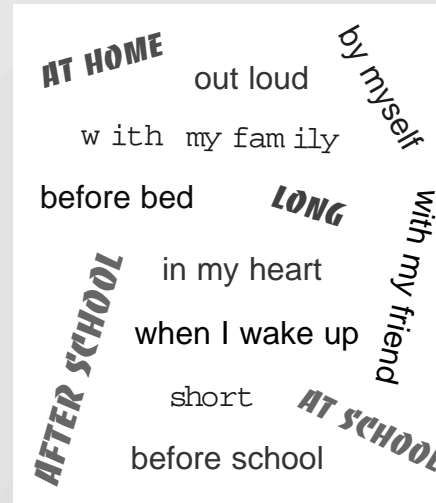
## GROUP DISCUSSION/ACTIVITY

### PRAYER POWER

Objective: to reflect on the students' praying habits and to prepare a plan to improve or maintain their relationship with Jesus through constant prayers.

1. Ask the students to think about each question truthfully and answer them honestly.
2. Have the students pair up (or in small groups, depending on the size) and share their responses with each other. In particular, for Question A, ask the students to think about excuses they may have given in the past about not being able to pray as often as they would like. An example would be "I have too much homework tonight". Do they pray because they "have to" or because they "want to"?
4. Ask each pair to think of one prayer "tip" to help someone maintain a praying schedule.
5. Gather all the students into the large group and discuss any issues. Also record all the prayer "tips" on the board. It is important to validate all their suggestions and to let them realize the power of prayer, even those of children and youths.
6. For the concluding prayer, ask the students to sit in a circle and hold hands. Each student is to think of a one-word prayer. An example would be saying "Thanks" or "Love". Give them each a minute to think of their word and then begin with the student to the teacher's right. When everyone has said their prayer word, the teacher should conclude with the word "Amen". If time permits, conclude with a longer prayer in Spirit.

A. How often do you pray other than at church or before meals? (Circle one)



- Never
- Rarely
- Once a month
- Once a week
- Several times a week
- Once a day
- Several times a day

B. Complete the following sentence: Usually I pray when...

C. The prayer of adults or ministers are more powerful and more important than the prayers of kids and youths (Circle one).

True

False

## Bible Study

# THE LORD'S PRAYER

### I. "OUR FATHER WHO ART IN HEAVEN, HALLOWED BE THY NAME" (MT 6:9)

#### A. "OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN" INDICATES THAT GOD IS NOT ONLY MAJESTIC AND HOLY BUT ALSO PERSONAL AND LOVING.

1. We pray to the Almighty
  - a. In fear (Ps 3:1-3)
  - b. In sorrow (Mt 26:37-39)
  - c. In tribulation (Ps 50:15)
2. God is our Father
  - a. He is almighty (Gen 17:1)
  - b. He is merciful (Ps 103:13)
  - c. He grants our requests (Lk 11:11-13)
3. Our heavenly home
  - a. Our life on earth is full of toil and trouble (Ps 90:10)
  - b. The home in heaven is more wonderful than the worldly one (Heb 11:13, 16)
  - c. Jesus has prepared a place with many rooms for us (Jn 14:2)

### N O T E S

Although The Lord's Prayer is short, it is full of important truths and teachings. Please teach and learn it in depth and detail.



#### B. "HALLOWED BY THY NAME" IS TO HONOR GOD'S HOLY NAME. THERE ARE A NUMBER OF WAYS TO HONOR HIM.

1. Worship no other gods (Ex 20:3-5).
  - a. Have courage even in the face of persecution (Dan 3:17, 18).
  - b. Do not worship men (1 Cor 3:4-7).
2. Do not take God's name in vain (Ex 20:7).
3. Do not blaspheme God's name (Rom 2:21-24).
4. Preach the gospel to the world.
  - a. Jesus commissioned us (Mk 14:15).
  - b. We are his witnesses (Lk 24:48).
  - c. Our good deeds can become a testimony to glorify God (Mt 5:16).

### II. "THY KINGDOM COME" (MT 6:10A)

#### A. GOD'S SPIRITUAL REIGN

1. We do not control ourselves (Rom 7:18).
2. We were slaves to sin (Jn 8:34).





















**IV. GODLESSNESS IN THE LAST DAYS  
(3:1-4:8)**

**A. FALSE DOCTRINES AND HERESIES (3:1-9)**

1. The list of vices in the last days (3:1-5)
2. Heretics are specifically reproached as the ones who hold "the form of religion but deny the power of it" (3:5-6).
3. According to Jewish tradition, Jannes and Jambres were the magicians who argued against Moses before Pharaoh (Ex 7:11). But Moses defeated them, just as God will overthrow false teachers.

**B. FURTHER ENCOURAGEMENT FOR  
TIMOTHY IN TIMES OF PERSECUTION  
(3:10-4:8)**

1. The sufferings of Paul as an example (3:10-12)
  - a. The integrity and uprightness in Paul's life (3:10).
  - b. The sufferings of Paul and the deliverance of the Lord (3:11).
2. The Scriptures—the foundation of Christian faith (3:13-17)
  - a. Sacred writings are all inspired by God.
  - b. It is useful for teaching and training in righteousness.

**N O T E S**

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....



3. Be a faithful minister in all circumstances (4:1-5)
  - a. Proclaim the message.
  - b. Be persistent.
  - c. Convince, rebuke and encourage with patience.
4. Solemn yet triumphant reflections of Paul's life (4:6-8).
  - a. "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." (4:7)
  - b. "Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing." (4:8)

**V. CONCLUSION (4:8-22)**

- A. DESCRIPTION OF PAUL'S SITUATION (4:9-12)-HE IS ALONE WITH LUKE BECAUSE PAUL HAS EITHER SENT PEOPLE AWAY TO WORK OR THEY HAVE DESERTED HIM.**
- B. INSTRUCTIONS FOR TIMOTHY TO BE CAREFUL (4:13-15).**
- C. PAUL AFFIRMS HIS BELIEF IN THE PROTECTION AND LOVE OF CHRIST (4:16-18).**
- D. GREETINGS AND VALEDICTION(4:19-22)**

**VI. VOCABULARY**

- 1. **Eschatology:** doctrines concerning the end of the world
- 2. **Exhortation:** words of encouragement
- 3. **Benediction:** blessing
- 4. **Liturgy:** an appointed form for the ceremonies of public worship
- 5. **Emissary:** person sent on a mission
- 6. **Apostasy:** abandonment of one's faith

**VII. QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION**

- 1a. What was the relationship like between Paul and Timothy?
- 1b. List five (5) of the vices in the last days mentioned in 2 Timothy 3:1-5.
- 1c. What does Paul say about the importance of the Scriptures when it comes to our faith?
  
- 2a. Pick three (3) of the following and answer the question: What are Paul's views on these subjects?

\* **The Holy Spirit**

\* **Jesus Christ**

\* **Being a worker of God**

**N O T E S**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

\* **The end time**

\* **Godliness**

- 2b. How can we be a vessel for God?
- 2c. Find three (3) verses in 2 Timothy where Paul encourages Timothy to be strong. What does each point to as the the source of strength?
  
- 3a. In verses 2:3-7, Paul used three metaphors or comparisons to describe the spirit of working for God. State the similarities these roles possess. How is suffering related to each of these comparisons?
- 3b. What kinds of persecution or sufferings might we face today?
- 3c. Paul declared to Timothy, "I know whom I have believed" (2 Tim 1:12). It was because of whom he believed that he was willing to work hard, suffer and even give up his life. Do you know whom you have believed? Describe in detail why you believe in him.

**GROUP DISCUSSION/ACTIVITY**

**SOLDIERS OF CHRIST**

Objective: to identify persecutions that we might face today and discuss strategies that we can use to combat them, remaining firm in our faith

- 1. As a large group, brainstorm the types of persecutions Christians face today. Are there any similarities or differences compared with the ones the apostles faced during their time?

*Bible Study*

2. After the discussion, ask them to gather into groups of 3 or 4.
  
3. They have 15 minutes to create a skit of one of the situations. They may also choose to come up with their own. The skit should be short, a few minutes long at the most. It should include the persecution the Christian faces and how he or she overcomes or deals with the situation. Encourage them to be creative but appropriate.
  
4. The instructor should walk around and offer assistance as needed. Ensure that they are on track.
  
5. Each group will then have an opportunity to perform their skit. After each skit, discuss any remaining issues or questions the students might have.
  
6. Conclude and pray.

**N O T E S**



### N O T E S

#### “LORD, TEACH US HOW TO PRAY.” (LK 11:1)

- To pray is to talk with God on behalf of ourselves, our church, and others. Its value surpasses all things in the world.
- Prayer is the first and the greatest work in the kingdom of God (Acts 6:2-4). The power generated from prayer is immeasurable.
- Prayer yields excellent spirituality (Dan 5:11, 12), establishes the church (Acts 1:3-5, 8, 14), and allows the kingdom of heaven to form on earth (Acts 2:46, 47).
- Christians who are weak in their life of prayer cannot please God, nor will they have the wisdom and strength to serve him.
- Let us continue to learn how to lead a life of prayer.

### I. THE PURPOSES OF PRAYER

#### A. FOR OURSELVES

1. We can confess and repent of wrongdoing (Is 59:1, 2; Hos 5:15). We should make the determination to change, renew our covenant with God and



- improve our relationship with him (Jon 2:6-9; 3:5-10)
2. We are able to commune with God in the Spirit (1 Cor 14:2)
    - a. Seek after the fullness of the Holy Spirit (Jude 20; Eph 5:18).
    - b. Increase in spiritual wisdom (Acts 6:3, 10).
    - c. Understand God's will and its mysteries (Col 1:9, 10; Eph 3:1-6).
    - d. Press on to acknowledge and truly know him (Hos 6:3; Eph 1:17-19).
    - e. Reflect on the characteristics of God which are honesty, holiness, humility, gentleness, uprightness, righteousness, love and kindness (Ex 34:28, 29; Lk 9:28, 29; 2 Cor 3:17, 18).
    - f. Daniel communed with God daily in prayers (Dan 6:10; 5:10-12).
  3. We can exercise spiritual discipline and subdue the flesh to edify the spirituality (1 Cor 14:4; 9:27)
    - a. Nail to the cross the lust of the flesh (Rom 8:13, 26, 27; Gal 5:16-21, 24; Lk 2:36-38).
    - b. Keep the heart in purity; prepare to serve the Lord in order to shoulder greater responsibilities (2 Tim 2:20-22).

- c. Strengthen the faith and spiritual power so as to overcome temptation and sin (Eph 3:16; Heb 12:4; Jas 4:7; Rev 3:4-5).
4. We are able to drink of the Holy Spirit (1 Cor 12:13) and bear all kinds of spiritual fruit (Gal 5:22, 23; Rev 22:1, 2).
  5. We can obtain more blessings from God (1 Cor 12:4-11, 31; 14:1)
    - a. Preach the gospel and save souls (Acts 8:5-13).
    - b. Peter—this “fisher of men” was filled with spiritual gifts (Acts 2:37, 38, 41; 5:12-16; 9:32-42; 10:44-48).
    - c. Apollos—a man full of eloquence and spiritual knowledge; edified the church (Acts 18:24-28; 1 Cor 3:6).
    - d. Elijah—a mighty prophet who revived the faith of the Israelites (1 Kgs 18:30-39).
  6. We need to pray for our own well-being
    - a. Health (2 Cor 12:7-8)
    - b. Education (Dan 1:17; Acts 7:22)
    - c. Career (Ps 37:5; 1 Sam 2:7,8)
    - d. Marriage (Mk 10:9; Gen 24:1-4, 12-14; 2 Cor 6:14)
    - e. Future (Jas 4:13-15; Prov 3:5-7)
    - f. All things throughout life (Ps 31:15; Phil 4:6, 7)

**N O T E S**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



7. We can give thanks to God (Col 4:2; Phil 4:6; Eph 5:20; Ps 95:2, 100:4).

**B. FOR THE CHURCH**

1. Pray for the workers of God (1 Cor 1:11; 1 Thess 5:25)
  - a. To increase in wisdom and eloquence (Eph 6:19, 20; Col 4:2-4).
  - b. To have courage, boldness, and power (Acts 4:29-31; 8:5-13).
  - c. For the Holy Spirit to work with them and give them all kinds of gifts to edify the church (Acts 8:14-17).
  - d. To ask God to choose more workers (Mt 9:38)
2. Pray for the prosperity and growth of the church (Ps 122:6-9)
  - a. That the door of evangelism may be opened widely (Acts 2:47), that many souls will be saved (Mt 4:19).
  - b. That the Holy Spirit will work, performing miracles, casting out demons, revealing visions, and pouring down the Holy Spirit on many people, revealing all kinds of grace (Acts 5:12-16).
  - c. That the love of Christ fills the whole church and forms a big family of love (Rom 5:5, 1 Jn 4:11, 12).
  - d. That all the members of the church have one mind, one heart, working in unity (Jn 17:11, 20-23; Phil 1:3-6, 27).

**C. FOR OTHERS**

1. The sick, the afflicted, and the troubled (Jas 5:15, 16, 19, 20)
2. The spiritually weak (Rom 15:1; Gal 6:1, 2)
3. The sinners (Ex 32:30-32; Dt 9:18-20; Job 42:8-10)
4. The salvation of souls (Gen 18:20-33; 19:29; Rom 9:1-3; 1 Tim 2:1-4)

**II. THE ACTUAL PRACTICE OF PRAYER**

**A. WORDS IN PRAYER**

1. Begin with "In the name of Jesus Christ" (Jn 14:13; 15:16; Eph 5:20; Col 3:17).
2. Hallelujah (Hebrew)—means "praise the Lord" (Rev 19:1, 3, 4-6; Ps 150:1, 6).
3. Prayer of understanding—using understandable language (Mt 6:9-15; Lk 22:42; Jn 17; Acts 4:24-30; 1 Cor 14:15).
4. Prayer with spiritual tongues—a strange utterance of tongue given by the Holy Spirit (1 Cor 14:2, 4, 14, 15; Rom 8:26, 27).
5. Silent prayer (1 Sam 1:13; Neh 2:4).

**N O T E S**



**B. POSTURES IN PRAYER**

1. Kneeling down (Dan 6:10; Lk 22:41; Acts 20:36; Phil 2:9-10)
2. Prostrating (Num 16:22; Dt 9:18, 25; Rev 4:9, 10)
3. Standing (Ps 135:2; Mk 11:25)

**C. TIME OF PRAYER**

1. At dawn (Mk 1:35; Ps 5:3; 88:13)
2. In the morning (Acts 2:1-4, 15)
3. At noon (Ps 55:17; Acts 10:9)
4. In the afternoon (Acts 3:1; 10:3, 30)
5. At night (Ps 77:2; Mt 14:23)
6. Before meals (Mt 14:19; Lk 24:30)
7. Before, during, or after work (Mt 4:1; Lk 5:15, 16; Mt 14:13, 23)
8. Any time (Eph 5:18; 1 Thess 5:17)

**D. PLACES OF PRAYER**

1. The holy temple (church) (Is 56:7; Mt 21:12, 13)
2. The inner room at home (Mt 6:6; Acts 9:39, 40)



12. Pray according to the will of God  
(1 Jn 5:14, 15)

- a. Be determined to lay aside our own plan and let the Holy Spirit intercede for us and reveal the will of God (Rom 8:26, 27; Col 1:9, 10).
- b. Do not follow the desires of the flesh but only obey the will of God (Mt 16:21-23; 26:36-44).

13. Fasting prayer

- a. The Lord Jesus fasted for forty days and nights before he overcame Satan (Mt 4:1-11).
- b. Moses fasted for forty days and nights and his face reflected the glory of God (Ex 34:28, 29).
- c. The whole city of Nineveh fasted and repented before God. Therefore, God changed his mind and spared their lives (Jon 3:4-10).
- d. Esther and all the Jews in the city fasted three days and nights and God delivered them (Est 4:16)
- e. Fast and pray for the growth of our spirituality (Lk 2:37).
- f. Fast and pray for the spiritual power of healing and casting out demons (Mt 17:19-21).

14. Deep and long prayers

- a. Jesus prayed until the fourth watch (Mt 14:22-25).
- b. Jesus prayed all night (Lk 6:12, 13).

**N O T E S**

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....



.....

.....

.....

.....

**III. QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION**

- 1a. Provide 5 purposes or reasons why we need to pray for ourselves.
- 1b. When we pray for the workers of God, what can we ask for in our prayers to help them?
- 1c. How should we always begin our prayers?
- 1d. Is kneeling down the only acceptable way to pray to God?
- 1e. When and where can we pray?
- 2a. Why do we need to be filled with the Holy Spirit when we pray?
- 2b. How does praying help keep our hearts pure?
- 2c. How can we pray for the salvation of others, especially if we don't know who they are?
- 2d. How can we pray according to the will of God?
- 2e. Find an example in the Bible when God answered a prayer. Why do you think God answered that person's prayer?
- 3a. Some church members seem to find joy in constant prayer while others regard prayer as a chore. Why do you think people react so differently toward prayer?





Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

I am ready to QUIT. Prayer just doesn't work. A few months ago, my dad got a big promotion at work. But the new work place is in a totally different city. I don't want to move. I mean, I have my friends here and besides, it would mean that we would have to change churches. I am in the choir and I really like the Saturday classes. And I know that Mom doesn't really want to move.

So anyway, I prayed to God about it EVERY DAY! I promised him that I'd do all kinds of extra chores if we could just stay here. I even said that I wouldn't ever miss a church service ever again. I told God how I really felt, you know, that I am really happy here and how scared I am about moving to a new place. I begged God in my prayers to let us stay here, somehow. But it didn't work. God didn't even listen. How could he let us move? It's just not fair.

Love,  
Lucas

A letter addressed to you

Your response

Dear Lucas,

Leaving your friends and moving to a new place will be hard. God didn't promise that things would always work out the way we want them to. But he did promise that he would always... (complete the sentence or paragraph)

Keep praying to God. He always listens. This time in your prayer, you might want to... (complete the sentence or paragraph)

Love,  
\_\_\_\_\_



## I. PRAYERS OF UNDERSTANDING IN THE BIBLE

### A. TWO DIFFERENT KINDS OF PRAYER

1. Prayer in the Spirit is to edify oneself (1 Cor 14: 4) and to comprehend the existence of God (1 Jn 3: 24) but it is not understandable by human means (1 Cor 14: 2).
2. Prayer of understanding is comprehensible to human ears and serves to edify others. "I will pray with the spirit and I will pray with the mind also." (1 Cor 14:15)

### B. PRAYERS OF UNDERSTANDING IN THE BIBLE

1. Abraham pleaded with God face to face for Sodom and Gomorrah (Gen 18: 23-33).
2. David praised God (1 Chr 29: 10-19).
3. Solomon praised God during the dedication of the temple (2 Chr 6: 12-42).
4. Jesus taught his disciples the Lord's Prayer in comprehensible words (Mt 6: 9-13).

## N O T E S

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....



.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

5. Jesus offered prayers before his arrest (Jn 17).
6. The apostles praised and thanked God (Acts 4:23-31).

## II. PRAYER OF UNDERSTANDING

### A. THEME

A prayer must have a theme so that the request will have a direction (Jn 17:17; Acts 4:30).

### B. OBJECTIVE

To let the congregation declare, in one accord, the abundant grace of God and to be resolved in one mind, one heart, and one faith among the congregation.

### C. PRINCIPLES

In addition to the prerequisite of one's faith in God, the following are principles to serve as a guide and to motivate members to appreciate the splendor of God.

1. Confess that God
  - a. is self-existing, eternal, who was, is, and will always be the only true God;

.....

.....

- b. is the controller of heaven and earth and the Creator of all things in the universe;
  - c. is merciful, just, and detests evil.
2. Confess that Jesus
- a. is God, the “Word which became living flesh”;
  - b. sacrificed himself on the cross, resurrected on the third day, ascended to heaven, completed his work of salvation for mankind;
  - c. is interceding for us on the right side of God.
3. Confess that the Spirit
- a. is God, the “Counselor” promised by Jesus;
  - b. descended on the day of Pentecost, and established the apostolic church;
  - c. would descend the second time to establish the true church before the end of time;
  - d. will live in our hearts, guiding us to believe, to know, and to fear the Lord;
  - e. will comfort us in trials and strengthen us when we are weak;
  - f. will give us power and wisdom;
  - g. serves as a guarantee of the inheritance of the heavenly kingdom.
4. Confess that the Bible
- a. is the Truth inspired by God;

N O T E S

Dotted lines for taking notes.

- b. is the gospel of salvation;
- c. is the everlasting Word which never changes.

III. EXAMPLES OF PRAYERS OF UNDERSTANDING

EXAMPLE 1:

GRACE BEFORE A MEAL AT CHURCH

Theme:

Remembering God’s blessings

Objective:

To remind everyone of the wonderful grace we have received from God, both materially and spiritually, and to offer our thanksgiving before partaking his blessings.

*In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, we pray:*

*Our dear Father, we thank you for gathering us here today to nurture our spiritual lives and to have fellowship in love. May we remember that you have created all things on this earth: the sun for warmth, water for drink, plants for food, parents for love, and so many other things that we take for granted. There are people who are homeless, orphaned, hungry and oppressed; yet we complain that we do not have enough. There are people who are ignorant about the Truth, deceived and blinded by the world; yet we shy away from opportunities to share your grace. We never show our gratitude to you. Please forgive your faithless children and let us learn how to love you more with a pure and simple heart. Please bless this food and let us receive it with gratitude.*

*Thank you, Lord Jesus. Amen.*



**EXAMPLE 2:**

**PRAYER BEFORE AN E1 CLASS BEGINS**

**Theme:**

The faith of Abraham

**Objective:**

To let the students agree concurrently with the importance of faith, and to ask the Lord to increase everyone's faith.

*In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, we pray:*

*Merciful heavenly Father, we praise and thank you for bringing your children here to learn about your words. A long time ago, you set Abraham apart from among all the other people because Abraham believed in your words. He had faith in what you said to him even though it seemed impossible to others. And because Abraham believed with a simple faith, you gave Isaac to him when he was 100 years old. Today, you have set us apart from the world and made us as your chosen people. Therefore, we also want to have the same kind of simple faith as Abraham. Our Father, please increase our faith. We know that when we put our trust in your words, you will surely give us what you have promised to us.*

*Thank you for listening to our prayer. Amen.*

**EXAMPLE 3:**

**PRAYER BEFORE A CAMPUS FELLOWSHIP**

**Theme:**

To practice the love of Christ

**Objective:**

To indicate the purpose of the fellowship and the importance of building the body of Christ in love.

**N O T E S**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---




---

---

---

---

---

*In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, we pray:*

*Dear Lord, how wonderful it is to come together in your Name. Through your suffering and your death, we are made one in body and in spirit. You did not keep your love from us but poured it out abundantly. We have done nothing to deserve your grace and mercy; we are unworthy servants. You instructed us to love others as you have loved us, yet we often forget to give and only ask to receive. So, starting from today, may we think less of ourselves and more about our brethren. May others be able to tell that we are your disciples by our love for one another.*

*Our Lord Jesus, please bless this campus fellowship. Let us grow not only in the knowledge of you, but in the sharing of your love. Fill our hearts with your abundant love so that we can truly feel the oneness of God's family.*

*Thank you, Jesus. Amen.*

**IV. QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION**

- 1a. Explain the difference between a prayer in Spirit and a prayer in understanding.
- 1b. How should a prayer of understanding always begin and end?
- 1c. When are some occasions when a prayer of understanding may be used?

---

---

*Christian Living*

- 2a. Look up one of the examples of prayers of understanding in the Bible and briefly describe what it includes.
  
- 2b. What are the important elements of a prayer of understanding?
  
- 2c. Pick one of the examples of a prayer of understanding provided in section III. Would you change or add anything to it? Why or why not?
  
  
- 3a. Why are understandings about the nature of God, Jesus, the Spirit and the Bible so important to our faith? What significance does each hold for us and our beliefs?

**GROUP DISCUSSION/ACTIVITY**

**MY PRAYER**

Objective: to help students plan and prepare a prayer of understanding

ASSIGNMENT:

- 1. Ask the students as a large group to brainstorm and think about occasions where they may have to say a prayer of understanding. Some of the possible occasions may be: grace before a meal, before a campus fellowship, before a Bible study group, or before a RE class.
  
- 2. Then ask the students to pair up and choose one occasion in which they may be asked to say a prayer.

**N O T E S**

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

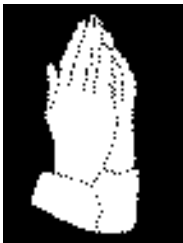
.....

.....

.....

.....

- 3. Give them fifteen (15) minutes to write and rehearse their prayer.
  
- 4. Then ask each pair of students to get together with another pair. They will then form different pairings with a new partner from the other group, with each student reciting their prayer to one another. Remind them that when presenting their prayer, they should avoid reading from their paper or totally memorizing it. Rather they should be as natural as possible. Remember that it is a prayer to God.
  
- 5. After they have each shared their prayers, gather all the students back together into the large group. If anyone would like to share their prayer because it was a very good example, allow time for that. Also discuss any questions that might remain unanswered and openly talk about how the experience felt to them. Hopefully, they will all become more confident in themselves.
  
- 6. Conclude and pray.



# PRAYER OF THE SAINTS

**Prayer is a means for a Christian to breathe spiritually**, to maintain the growth of spiritual life, and to receive spiritual gifts, wisdom, and power. A person with a good life of faith must be one who has dedicated a great deal of effort to prayer. The experiences of the saints in the past can serve as vivid examples for us today.

## I. ABRAHAM

**A. ABRAHAM WAS CHOSEN BY GOD AS THE "FATHER OF FAITH". GOD APPEARED TO HIM SEVERAL TIMES THROUGHOUT HIS LIFE AND HE WAS CALLED THE FRIEND OF GOD BECAUSE OF HIS CLOSE AND INTIMATE RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM (JAS 2:23).**

### B. BUILDING OF ALTARS

1. Building an altar was a way to worship and seek after the Lord.
2. Abraham built altars wherever he went, and in doing so, God protected him and blessed him throughout his life (1 Tim 2:8; 1 Thess 5:17-18).
  - a. In Shechem, by the terebinth tree (Gen 12:6-7)
  - b. In a place between Bethel and Ai (12:8)
  - c. In Hebron, by the terebinth tree (13:18)

### N O T E S

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

d. In Beersheba (21:33)

### C. PRAYER FOR SODOM

1. Knowing that Sodom was to be destroyed, he pleaded with God six times (Gen 18:23-32) and God remembered his prayer (Gen 19:29).
2. We should also remember to pray for the salvation of all mankind (1 Tim 2:1-5; 2 Pet 3:7-10; Ref. Jon 3:5-10; 4:10-11).

### D. PRAYER FOR ABIMELECH'S FAMILY

1. God prevented Abimelech from marrying Sarah and made the women in his household barren (Gen 20:1-6, 18).
2. God regarded Abraham as a prophet and listened to his prayer (Gen 20:7, 17) .

### E. A MODEL OF PRAYER IN HIS FAMILY

1. Abraham's good examples of prayer influenced his household (Gen 18:19).
2. The old servant was entrusted with the task of finding a bride for Isaac, praying as he went (Gen 24:11-14, 26-27, 50-52).







**C. PRAYING AFTER THE DEFEAT IN AI**

1. The defeat followed after Achan sinned and the people did not consult God for the battle (Josh 7:1-5).
2. Joshua and the elders of Israel prayed to God all day long, and God made known the cause of defeat and the way to deal with the situation (Josh 7:6-15).
3. After the sinner was put to death, they defeated the city by God's methods (Josh 7:24-26; 8:1-2).
4. The lack of prayer translates into lack of strength and power; God will not abide with sinners (Is 59:1-2; Jn 9:31).

**D. BATTLE OF GIBEON**

1. Without inquiring the Lord, they made a covenant with Gibeon and were deceived (Josh 9:3-6, 14-15).
2. At the Gibeonites' request, they fought and defeated the five kings with the power of God (Josh 10:5-11).
3. God listened to Joshua's prayer by stopping the sun and moon for about one day (Josh 10:12-14).

.....

.....

.....

**N O T E S**

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....



**E. BLESSING THE PEOPLE BY FAITH (JOSH 22:1-5; 23-24)**

1. We should do all things by God's commandment, and God's promise will be fulfilled (11:15; 23:14).
2. Like Joshua, we should encourage and exhort all people to worship God wholeheartedly.

**V. SAMUEL**

**A. SAMUEL SERVED GOD AS A PROPHET, A PRIEST AND THE LAST JUDGE OF THE ISRAELITES. HE WAS A KEY FIGURE IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NATION. THROUGH HIS PRAYERS, SAMUEL BROUGHT ABOUT THE REVIVAL OF ISRAEL.**

**B. A PRAYERFUL MOTHER (1 SAM 1:9-18)**

1. Samuel, meaning "the Lord has listened," was born through the prayer and vow of his mother (Ps 127:3).
2. Hannah brought the young Samuel to serve the Lord in the tabernacle as soon as he was weaned (1 Sam 1:26-28).

**C. LEADING THE ISRAELITES' RETURN TO GOD (1 SAM 7)**

1. He encouraged the people to put away idols and serve the Lord only (1 Sam 7:2-4).







