

Prayer

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I. Introduction.

- A. Learning about prayer on God's terms helps to pray more effectively consistently.
- B. God has certain conditions for prayer, most of which are couched in promises.

II. We must pray in Jesus' name, which means to come before God with Jesus' merit. (John 14:12; 2 Corinthians 5:20)

- A. We have no credit before God by ourselves.
- B. We come to God on Jesus' behalf and merit.

III. We must pray according to God's will. (1 John 5:14-15)

- A. We must take the time to know what God's will is through the Scriptures.
- B. When we do not know God's will, we can come before God and ask with the best of our knowledge. (Matthew 18:19)
- C. We can pray for...

1. Open eyes to see wonderful things in the Bible. (Psalm 119:18)
2. Knowing the love of God and being filled with his fullness. (Ephesians 3:17)
3. Leading a life worthy of Jesus. (Colossians 1:9)
4. Bold utterance for using gifts. (Ephesians 6:19)
5. The resources to do whatever he asks us, such as wisdom. (James 1:5)

IV. God is not limited to our ability to see how he is going to answer prayer. (2 Kings 7; Jeremiah 32:27; Genesis 18:14; Ephesians 3:20; John 16:24)

Application questions:

1. What are God's terms for prayer?

2. Why is some prayer successful even when it is outside of God's prayers?

3. What are some things you will pray for more in light of the message? Explain.
