

The Practice of Prayer

Authentic Christianity

...is a supernatural walk with a living dynamic communicating God.

Larry Crabb, The Papa Prayer

*If God is so good as you represent Him, and if He knows all that we need, and better far than we do ourselves, **why** should it be necessary to ask Him for anything?*

Larry Crabb, The Papa Prayer

I answer, What if He knows Prayer to be the thing we need first and most? What if the main object in God's idea of prayer be the supplying of our great, our endless need—the need of Himself? Hunger may drive the runaway child home, and he may or may not be fed at once, but he needs his mother more than his dinner. Communion with God is the one need of the soul beyond all other need: prayer is the beginning of that communion, and some need is the motive of that prayer. So begins a communion, a talking with God, a coming-to-one with Him, which is the sole end of prayer.

Richard Foster, Celebration of Disciplines

Prayer ushers us into perpetual communion with the Father. The discipline of prayer brings us into the deepest and highest work of the human spirit.

Bill Hybels, Too Busy Not to Pray

The heart and soul of the Christian life is learning to hear God's voice and developing the courage to do what He tells us to do.

Hebrews 11:6

Without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.

I Thess. 5:16-17

Be joyful always, pray continually,
give thanks, for this is God's will for
you in Christ Jesus.

Psalm 1:2-3

Their delight is in the law of the Lord,
and on His law they meditate day and
night. They are like trees planted by
streams of living water, which yield their
fruit in its season and their leaves do
not wither.

Mark 1:35

Jesus got up early, while it was still dark, went away to a secluded place and was praying there.

Psalm 46:10

Be still and know that I am God.

Bill Hybels, Too Busy Not to Pray

Decisions that change the entire course of your life usually come out of the Holy of Holies.

Spiritual Authenticity

The archenemy of spiritual authenticity is busyness.

Martin Luther

I have so much business I cannot get on without spending three hours daily in prayer.

James 5:16-18

The prayer of a person living right with God is something powerful to be reckoned with.

Luke 11:5-8

Then He said to them, “Suppose one of you has a friend and he goes to him at midnight and says, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves of bread, because a friend of mine on a journey has come to me, and I have nothing to set before him.’ Then the one inside answers, ‘Don’t bother me. The door is already locked, and my children are with me in bed. I can’t get up and give you anything.’ I tell you, though he will not get up and give him the bread because he is his friend, yet because of the man’s boldness he will get up and give him as much as he needs.

Lord's prayer

- Worship
Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name
- Allegiance to God
Thy kingdom come
- Submission to His will
Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven
- Petition & Intercession
Give us this day our daily bread
- Confession
Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors
- Deliverance
Do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil
- (Worship)
For Thine is the kingdom, the power, & the glory, forever.
Amen

PAPA prayer

- Present yourself to God without pretence. Be real. (Rom. 12:1)
- Attend to how you're thinking of God. No pretending.
- Purge yourself of anything blocking your relationship with God.
- Approach God as the "first thing" in your life; as your most valuable treasure, the person you most want to know.

Corrie Ten Boom

If you want to hear God's voice clearly and you are uncertain, then remain in His presence until He changes this uncertainty. Often much can happen during this waiting on the Lord. Sometimes He changes pride into humility, doubt into faith and peace, sometimes lust into purity. The Lord can and will do it.