National Intercessory Prayer What is Prayer? Pastor John S. Torell

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What is prayer? It is talking to God and this can be easy or difficult. No one has ever seen God the Father, Jesus ascended 2,000 years ago, and the Holy Spirit, well, He works invisibly. Most of the time the Godhead does not audibly speak to us.

There are a number of methods we utilize to communicate with one another on earth. When we interact with other human beings, it is often done face to face, over the phone, or a video call. There is also instant messaging, text messages, email, and regular mail.

All these communication methods have one thing in common, namely, the first party expects to hear from the second party in whatever medium is being used. If I am on a phone call and there is lengthy silence on the other end, I might ask, "Are you still there?"

When we communicate with people on earth, most of the time we receive an instant answer to our questions or requests. However, there are also times when someone may call and ask a question and I have to tell them that I will get back to them later. There are times I want a staff member to finish a project and I ask when it will be done. Sometimes I am given a time and a date, but there are instances when I am told they do not know how long it will take to complete.

COMMUNICATING WITH GOD

I held different jobs in the past before I entered fulltime into the ministry. Usually when I first started a job, I would be given an introduction by a supervisor, who told me what the job entailed. I was given a written instruction manual and told to follow its instructions.

For the first couple of weeks, my boss would be gracious when I asked for more instruction. Eventually the hint was given to me, did you read the manual? It is easier to just ask the boss than to comb through the instruction manual.

If I continued to be lazy and pestered the boss, there would come a day when I was told to stop asking questions and just read the manual. I learned very quickly that when I had reached this level in relation with the boss, it was time to buckle down, stop being lazy, and do my homework.

THE BIBLE

The Bible is the manual provided for humanity to properly function on earth. It contains all the information we need to operate as born-again Christians. It contains spiritual laws, instruction about hygiene, sexual instructions for marriage, regulations for the relationship between parents and children, moral issues, etc. Thus, if a person starts entertaining homosexual feelings and they

seek guidance from the Lord if it is okay to engage in this lifestyle, there won't be an answer from God because He has already spoken clearly about it in the Bible. Therefore, the first duty of a Christian is to read the instruction manual – the Bible – to determine what God has stated. Now, if there is something that is not discussed in the Scriptures, God will give an answer for that.

FUTURE EVENTS

As a human, I don't have the ability to see into the future. This is a matter reserved exclusively for God. The Lord knows if a man should marry a certain woman or not. We can ask about anything in the future and expect an answer from the Holy Spirit. Should I buy this particular car? Should I take the job being offered to me? When is the time to witness to a certain person?

HOW DOES GOD ANSWER?

The Godhead usually chooses to speak through the Holy Spirit. It can be in form of a strong impression in your mind or a thought voice. Regardless, the Holy Spirit will express what He wants you to do. Once you get used talking to God and not letting it bother you if He doesn't respond instantly, your prayer life will begin to flow. This concept can be learned quickly, or it might take years to master.

LORD, TEACH US TO PRAY!

"AND IT CAME TO PASS, THAT, AS HE WAS PRAYING IN A CERTAIN PLACE, WHEN HE CEASED, ONE OF HIS DISCIPLES SAID UNTO HIM, LORD, **TEACH US TO PRAY**, AS JOHN ALSO TAUGHT HIS DISCIPLES." LUKE 11:1

BE PERSISTENT

Be persistent if you want results in your prayer life. If you know that your prayer request is aligned with the will of God, keep talking to God until He moves on your behalf. This is what Jesus told us to do.

"And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint; Saying, There was in a city a judge, which feared not God, neither regarded man: And there was a widow in that city; and she came unto him, saying, Avenge me of mine adversary.

And he would not for a while: but afterward he said within himself, Though I fear not God, nor regard man; Yet because this widow troubleth me, I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.

And the Lord said, Hear what the unjust judge saith. And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them? I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?" (Luke 18:1-8)

PRAYER TARGET

For the time being, I am not going to introduce any new prayer projects. I want to focus on the following targets until we hear from the Holy Spirit that our requests have been granted and they will be implemented.

Continue to pray for the salvation or demise of Joe Biden and Kamala Harris.

Pray that the work former White House Chief of Staff Ron Klein has left behind will be destroyed.

Pray that the new chief of staff, Jeffrey Zients, will be unable to function and push out the ungodly agenda of the Biden administration.