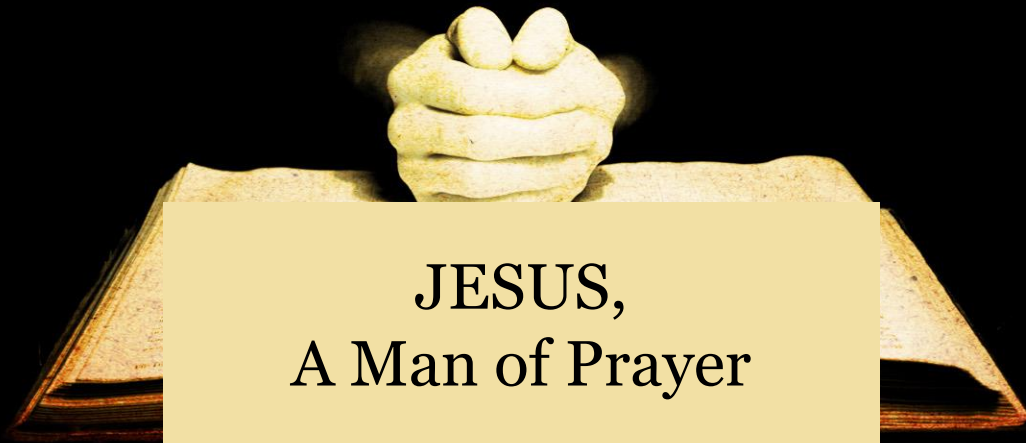


Communicating with God

A study of prayer and Bible study



JESUS,
A Man of Prayer

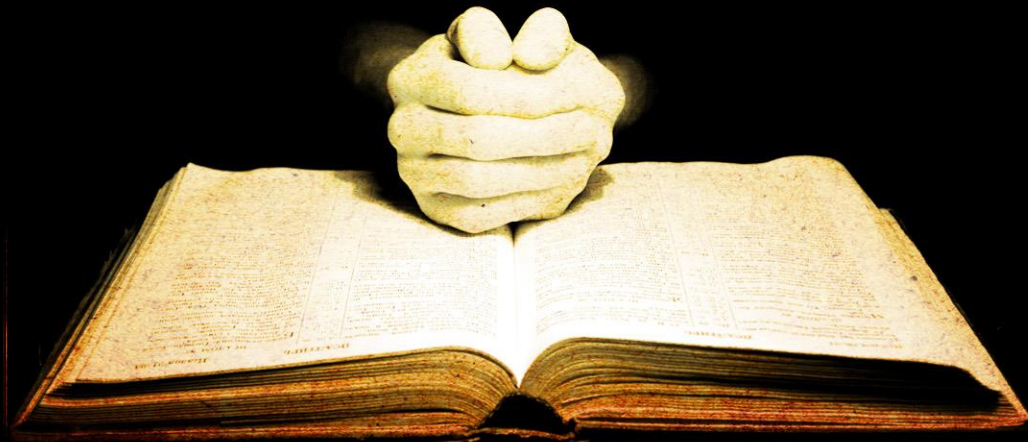
A study of prayer!



- Thus far in our studies we have examined God's part in prayer:
 - He is accessible
 - He is able
 - He can still answer – providentially
 - The different ways He might answer –
“Yes”, “But not the way you thought”, “No”,
“Wait”

Prayer (7)

Jesus, a man of prayer



Communicating with God:
A study of Prayer & Bible Study
Our 2024 Theme



Jesus and prayer

- The paradox of Jesus praying.
He is the Son of God - Immanuel
Greatest miracle worker and teacher
He came from heaven to reveal God to us
Yet, He prayed continually.
WHY did Jesus need to pray?
- **Let's look at prayer in the life of Jesus**



Prayer in the life of Jesus

- **Luke 11:1**, “Lord, teach us to pray...”
“He was praying in a certain place”
- NOTE: Luke emphasizes prayer more than the other gospels.
- **Luke 5:16**, He prayed often
He withdrew Himself into the wilderness
We **NEED** a private place where we pray regularly.



Prayer in the life of Jesus

- **Luke 3:21**, at His baptism (only Luke) this is just prior to His being driven into the wilderness to be tempted.

Facing challenging times, we ought to pray.

- **Mark 1:35**, in the morning, long before daylight.

Can you think of a better way to start your day? Before the busyness begins



Prayer in the life of Jesus

- **Matthew 14:22-23**, as evening was approaching. He was alone.
Can you think of a better way to end your day?
Reflect and pray about your day.
- This was also a time when Jesus was gaining popularity.
As we are successful, we need humility
– pray about it!
- Jesus was busy, but found time to pray



Prayer in the life of Jesus

- **Luke 6:12**, He prayed all night. He was about to choose His twelve apostles
When facing important decisions, we need to fervently pray.
- **Luke 9:18**, another important decision
- **Luke 9:28-29**, facing what was ahead.
He was with His disciples
Sometimes we need to pray with others



Prayer in the life of Jesus

- **Luke 10:21**, after the 70 returned, He thanked the Father for His faithful followers and revealing His will to them
Our prayers ought to express gratitude, for spiritual strength
- **John 11:41-42**, at the raising of Lazarus
Again, He thanks the Father, but also prays FOR those listening
Do we pray publicly, hoping to reveal God's will to others?



Prayer in the life of Jesus

- **John 17:1, 9, 20-21**, facing rejection and death, He prays for Himself, His disciples and future believers
Who are we praying for? Unity?
- **Luke 22:39-46**, in the garden, He prayed 3 times, willing to submit to the will of the Father
Do we “pray without ceasing”?
Desiring to submit to His will?
Concerns for temptations?



Prayer in the life of Jesus

- **Luke 23:34**, on the cross, “Father forgive...”
Do we pray for our enemies?
Is our life consistent with what we teach and pray for?
Cf. Luke 6:27-28, Matthew 5:44
- **Luke 23:46**, “Father, into your hands I commit My Spirit.”
When needed, do we pray and leave it in God’s hands?



Jesus taught about prayer

- **Luke 11:1**, “Lord teach us to pray”
His disciples saw how important prayer was
- **Luke 11:2-4**, the “model prayer”
(**cf. Matthew 6:9-13**)
Jesus taught them!
- **Luke 11:5-10**, parable of the persistent friend



Jesus taught about prayer

- **Luke 18:1**, “...men ought always to pray and not lose heart”
Another parable about persistence.
We need to be praying to God often!
- **Luke 18:9-14**, Parable of the Pharisee and tax collector
Humility in prayer; **WHOSE** prayers God hears



Jesus taught about prayer

- **Matthew 6:5-8**, pray in your room (secretly)
God, who sees in secret will reward you openly.
- **Luke 22:45-46**, pray that you do not enter
into temptation
We need His strength facing temptation.
Another example of WHAT to pray for.



WHY did Jesus pray so much?

- He demonstrated how great His relationship was with His heavenly Father.

While on earth He was **AWAY** from His presence.

John 17:3-5, He prayed for restored glory

- What is our relationship with our heavenly Father?



WHY did Jesus pray so much?

- To become the necessary sacrifice we need, He had to become human.

Philippians 2:5-8, this is why His sacrifice was so special – God and man

- How do we as humans communicate to God?



WHY did Jesus pray so much?

- He was tempted in all points as we are, yet without sin. **Hebrews 4:14-16**
Jesus HAD to be sinless to be that acceptable sacrifice.
He had to be tempted AS WE ARE, and thus we can say that He understands us.
CONSTANT prayer helped Him.
- Prayer is a crucial step in resisting temptation.



WHY did Jesus pray so much?

- His continued prayers is an **EXAMPLE** for us to learn from and imitate.

1 Peter 2:21-24, Philippians 2:5, etc.

We need to pray humbly, persistently and in faith!



Jesus, “...who, in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications, with vehement cries and tears to Him who was able to save Him from death, and was heard because of His godly fear,”



Hebrews 5:7-8

IF Jesus, the Son of God,
needed to pray as much as He
did, what does that say about
you and me?





Let us pray!