

PRAYER

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“Pray without ceasing” (1Thessalonians 5:17).

I. Grow up and _____.

Colossians 4:2 “Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.”

1 Peter 4:7 “The end of all things is near. Therefore be clear-minded and self-controlled so that you can pray.”

“Do not have your concert first, and then tune your instrument afterward. Begin the day with the Word of God and prayer, and get first of all into harmony with Him.” — Hudson Taylor

A. Become more _____ with God.

Philippians 3:10 “[For my determined purpose is] that I may know Him [that I may progressively become more deeply and intimately acquainted with Him, perceiving and recognizing and understanding the wonders of His Person more strongly and more clearly], and that I may in that same way come to know the power outflowing from His resurrection [which it exerts over believers], and that I may so share His sufferings as to be continually transformed [in spirit into His likeness even] to His death ...” (Amplified Bible)

II. Prayer is a many-faceted _____.

Proverbs 15:8 “The Lord detests the sacrifice of the wicked, but the prayer of the upright pleases Him.”

“We Christians too often substitute prayer for playing the game. Prayer is good; but when used as a substitute for obedience, it is nothing but a blatant hypocrisy, a despicable Pharisaism . . . To your knees, man! And to your Bible! Decide at once! Don't hedge! Time flies! Cease your insults to God, quit consulting flesh and blood. Stop your lame, lying, and cowardly excuses. Enlist!”
— C.T. Studd

A. Prayer is _____.

Psalms 73:26 “My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.”

1 John 1:3 “We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and His Son, Jesus Christ.”

B. Prayer is _____.

Psalms 31:19 “How great is Your goodness, which you have stored up for those who fear You, which You bestow in the sight of men on those who take refuge in You.”

C. Prayer is _____.

Psalms 103:2 “Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits.”

1 Corinthians 15:57 “But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

D. Prayer is _____.

Matthew 6:12 “Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.”

E. Prayer is _____.

Romans 10:1 “Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God for the Israelites is that they may be saved.”

F. Prayer is _____.

1 Corinthians 7:5 “Do not deprive each other except by mutual consent and for a time, so that you may devote yourselves to prayer. Then come together again so that Satan will not tempt you because of your lack of self-control.”

Hebrews 5:7 “During the days of Jesus' life on earth, He offered up prayers and petitions with loud cries and tears to the One who could save Him from death, and He was heard because of His reverent submission.”

Next week: We continue our *Grow Up* series with part two: *Conflict Resolution*.