



EQUIPPING THE SAINTS

BIBLE STUDY: CONVERSING WITH GOD

Communication is essential for any growing relationship, including our relationship with God. Prayer is our means of communicating with Him.

When you pray, the Holy Spirit helps you know what to say and how to say it (Romans 8:26,27).

*The Spirit links Himself with us in our praying and pours His supplications into our own.
He may master the technique of prayer and understand its philosophy;
we may have unlimited confidence in the veracity and validity
of the promises concerning prayer.
We may plead them earnestly.
But if we ignore the part played by the Holy Spirit,
we have failed to use the master key.
—J. Oswald Sanders**

VERSES Pg. 764

Prayer—Your Communication With God

1. As a believer in Christ, you have been given a special opportunity according to Hebrews 4:16. What is this opportunity and why was it given to you?

2. Because God is the believer’s refuge, what are you told to do? Psalm 62:8

How does 1 Thessalonians 5:17 relate to this verse? _____

* From *Spiritual Leadership* (Chicago: Moody Press, 1967), page 79.

3. Different types of prayer are necessary to communicate the variety of thoughts you want to express. Match each reference with the corresponding type of prayer.

Psalm 38:18 Hebrews 13:15 James 1:5 Ephesians 5:20 1 Samuel 12:23

Praise (for who God is) _____

Thanksgiving (for what He has done) _____

Confession _____

Prayer for others _____

Prayer for personal needs _____

The Benefits of Prayer

Not only do Christians have the privilege of talking with God about everything, they also experience great benefits from their communion with God.

4. What truth do you find both in Jeremiah 33:3 and Ephesians 3:20? _____

5. What result did the psalmist experience when he prayed? Psalm 34:4

What are some fears you can discuss with God? _____

6. Paul wrote in Philippians 4:6,7 about a powerful key to freedom from anxiety.

a. What are you to do? _____

b. Why do you feel God is interested in every area of your life? _____

c. What is God's promise? _____

d. In what area can you immediately begin to apply this truth? _____

Conditions of Prayer

7. What conditions of prayer do you find in the following verses?

Psalm 66:18 _____

Matthew 21:22 _____

John 15:7 _____

John 16:24 _____

1 John 5:14,15 _____

Even when these conditions are met, it sometimes appears as if God is not answering prayer. But remember that “No” and “Wait” are as much of an answer as “Yes.”

8. Consider Jesus’ pattern for prayer in Matthew 6:9-13.

a. How does the prayer begin? Why is this important? _____

b. Which requests are God-centered? _____

c. Which requests are man-centered? _____

d. In what specific ways can this pattern for praying help you pray? _____

For Whom Do We Pray?

9. What did Paul desire for those who didn’t know Christ? Romans 10:1

What did he do about it? _____

10. Read 1 Timothy 2:1-4. What groups of people should you pray for? Why?

11. For what does the Lord desire you to pray? Matthew 9:37,38.

Why do you feel this is important? _____

12. How do you usually react when you have been intentionally mistreated by someone? Place an "X" by your first response.

- Become angry with him
- Think of a way to get even
- Make an excuse for him and try to forget it
- Pray for him
- Forgive but not forget

Other: _____

Examine Luke 6:28, then circle the correct response.

13. Using Paul's prayer in Ephesians 3:14-21 as a guideline, list some requests that you could pray about for others and for yourself.

Have you been using a prayer list? A list can help you remember things you might otherwise forget to pray about. It can include:

- *Your family*
- *Your non-Christian friends and acquaintances*
- *Your pastor and church*
- *Missionaries and Christian workers you know*
- *Those who oppose you*
- *Governmental authorities*
- *Your personal needs*

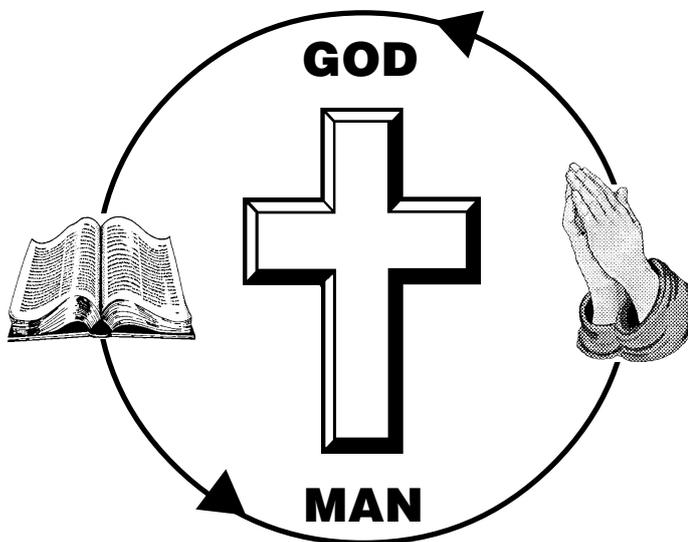
Daily Conversation With God

14. What attitudes can you have in coming to God?

Psalm 27:8 _____

Psalm 46:10 _____

Psalm 63:1 _____



What truths are illustrated by this diagram?

15. Examine Luke 10:38-42. You can make several observations from this passage which relate to spending time with Jesus Christ.

a. Contrast the activities of Mary and Martha.

Mary	Martha

b. Which one did Jesus commend and why? _____

c. Like Martha, you may be easily distracted by many things. What activities might distract you from meeting with God?

d. What can you do to overcome these distractions? _____
