

100 KEY BIBLE VERSES ON PRAYER

WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT

Prayer

- ◆ Basics on How to Pray
- ◆ Does God Hear All Our Prayers?
- ◆ Why Is Prayer Important?
- ◆ What about Unanswered Prayers?

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What the Bible Says about Prayer

PRAYER IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF HOW WE RELATE TO GOD. Many religions recognize the need for prayer, but what does the Bible say about it? Does God hear all our prayers? Do some people get special access to God? Is there a prayer technique that will get you what you want? God's Word answers these questions, and also gives us guidance as we struggle with tougher questions such as, Why didn't God answer my prayer? Why should I pray at all?

Three Things to Know Before You Pray

- 1. GOD CARES FOR YOU.** Because of God's unfailing love for us, we can bring anything and everything in our hearts to God in prayer. Prayer is a safe place of trust.

Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.—1 Peter 5:7

I trust in God's unfailing love for ever and ever.—Psalm 52:8

- 2. GOD HEARS YOUR PRAYERS.** God Almighty is listening. Because we are his beloved children, no prayer is too small for him to hear.

He will respond to the prayer of the destitute; he will not despise their plea.—Psalm 102:17

How gracious he will be when you cry for help! As soon as he hears, he will answer you.—Isaiah 30:19

For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their prayer.—1 Peter 3:12a

- 3. YOU CAN PRAY WITH CONFIDENCE.**

You don't have to be a prayer giant to come confidently to God in prayer. As believers, we can all equally approach God because of our unique standing in Jesus.

In him [Jesus] and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence.—Ephesians 3:12

Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.—Hebrews 4:16

What Is Prayer?

At its base, prayer is talking with God. We can pray alone or in a group; silently or aloud; using a written prayer or a spontaneous one. But to be in prayer is more than just speaking words. Scripture portrays a life of continual prayer, meaning a kind of openness toward God in all we do (1 Thess. 5:17). Our entire lives should be prayers to God, exhibiting the praise and love of our Creator and Savior.

Why Pray?

PRAYER IS IMPORTANT. God's Word instructs believers to make prayer a high priority. God wants to hear from his children.

Devote yourselves to prayer.—Colossians 4:2

I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people.—1 Timothy 2:1 (Also see verse 8)

Prayer should not be regarded "as a duty which must be performed, but rather as a privilege to be enjoyed, a rare delight that is always revealing some new beauty."—E.M. Bounds

PRAYER DRAWS US CLOSE TO GOD. In prayer, we worship, confess our sins, bring our requests to God, and wait and listen for him to speak. In short, we enter deeply and directly into relationship with God. Through communion with God, our hearts and minds will be changed to be more like our Lord, and we will grow to know his perfect will for our lives.

Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.—Romans 12:2

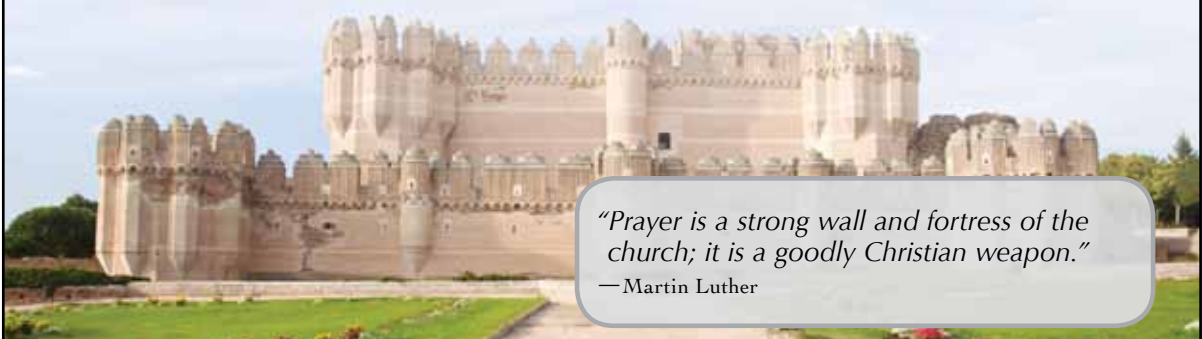
So all of us who have had that veil removed can see and reflect the glory of the Lord. And the Lord—who is the Spirit—makes us more and more like him as we are changed into his glorious image.—2 Corinthians 3:18 NLT

PRAYER IS POWERFUL. God not only hears our prayers, but he is acting on them. Our prayer requests bring about real change in the world and in the lives of the people we pray for.

Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.—Matthew 7:7–8

If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer.—Matthew 21:22 (Mark 11:24; John 15:7, 16)

And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well.... The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.—James 5:15–16



*"Prayer is a strong wall and fortress of the church; it is a goodly Christian weapon."
—Martin Luther*

Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God and receive from him anything we ask, because we keep his commands and do what pleases him.—1 John 3:21–22

PRAYER BRINGS PEACE. When we are at our wit's end, Scripture tells us to turn all those anxieties over to God who will give us peace of mind.

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.—Philippians 4:6–7

“Prayer as a relationship is probably your best indication about the health of your love relationship with God. If your prayer life has been slack, your love relationship has grown cold.”—John Piper

PRAYER PROTECTS US. We have Almighty God on our side! Jesus showed believers the importance of praying for protection and deliverance. (Also see 2 Cor. 10:4; Eph. 6:10–18.)

Jesus' prayer for his disciples: *My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one.—John 17:15*

The Lord's Prayer: *And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.—Matthew 6:13*

Jesus warns his disciples: *Be always on the watch, and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man.—Luke 21:36*

The Prayers of Jesus

Jesus took time to pray to God the Father. Jesus “often withdrew to lonely places and prayed” (Luke 5:16) and he would pray for long stretches of time (Luke 6:12).

JESUS:

Prayed for his followers. John 17:9

Prayed for the children. Matthew 19:13

Praised the Father in prayer. Matthew 11:25

Prayed for himself. John 17:1

Prayed for Simon Peter. Luke 22:32

Prayed that his Father's will be done. Matthew 26:39; Luke 22:42

Thanked the Father in prayer. John 11:41; Luke 24:30

Asked the Father to forgive sinners. Luke 23:34a

Prayed with his last words on the cross. Luke 23:46



Four Kinds of Prayer

There are many types of prayer. Below are several main categories of prayer. A person may pray one or all of these in a single prayer time, and in any order. You can remember these categories with the acronym ACTS.

Adoration

Prayer, first and foremost, ought to be about worship. God alone is worthy of undiluted praise. That would be true even if God never gave us a thing, and that is why adoration is distinct from thanksgiving. Notice that the Lord's Prayer begins with "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name" (Matt. 6:9). Holding up God's name for praise is our prime duty in prayer. Examples: 1 Chron. 29:10; 2 Chron. 6:26–27; Luke 2:37.

Confession

"Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us" (Luke 11:4). Knowing that human sin blocks communication with God, Jesus taught his disciples to pray this way to make sure that there are no stumbling blocks between God and them. Examples: 2 Chron. 7:14; Dan. 9:4–19; 1 John 1:8–9.

Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving is praise for something God has done for us or given to us—or for what we trust him to do. The apostle Paul thanked God for the believers in Philippi: "I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now" (Phil. 1:3–5). Examples: Ps. 100:4; 107:1; 118:21; Matt. 14:19; Eph. 1:15–16; 1 Thess. 1:2; 5:16–18; 1 Tim. 4:4.

Supplication (Also called Petition)

Our heavenly Father wants his children to bring their requests to him (Phil. 4:6). Jesus taught, "If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!" (Matt. 7:11). Intercession is a type of supplication where we pray for the needs and concerns of others. And we should not just pray for our friends, but also "...pray for those who persecute you" (Matt. 5:44). Examples: Gen. 24:12–15; 1 Sam. 7:8.



How to Pray

PRAY ALWAYS. We should live in a constant attitude of prayer. John MacArthur, a Christian author and pastor, explains that praying continually means “you live your life and your experiences of life with a constant, close connection to the Lord and are drawn into his presence through everything.” (Also see Ps. 1; Josh. 1:8.)

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.—1 Thessalonians 5:16–18

PRAY ACCORDING TO GOD’S WILL. In all requests, we should keep the perspective that it is always “if the Lord wills.” He is still in charge and knows best.

Now listen, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money.” Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow.... Instead, you ought to say, “If it is the Lord’s will, we will live and do this or that.”—James 4:13–15

This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him.—1 John 5:14–15

PRAY IN THE HOLY SPIRIT. Every time you pray, come with an open heart allowing God’s Spirit in you to guide your prayers. Where we are inadequate, the Spirit knows exactly the right thing to say. (Also see Rom. 8:15–16; Eph. 5:18.)

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord’s people.—Ephesians 6:18

But you, dear friends, by building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in God’s love as you wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to bring you to eternal life.—Jude 20–21

We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God’s people in accordance with the will of God.—Romans 8:26–27

ASK IN FAITH—AND ALSO FOR FAITH. Faith may move mountains, but having that faith is often easier said than done. The Gospel of Mark tells a story of a father who wanted to fully believe that Jesus would answer his request to heal his son. The father cried out to Jesus, “I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!” Even though this father had difficulty with faith, Jesus healed his son (Mark 9:14–29). Like this father, we too can pray for stronger faith.

Jesus replied, “Truly I tell you, if you have faith and do not doubt, not only can you do what was done to the fig tree, but also you can say to this mountain, ‘Go, throw

yourself into the sea, and it will be done. If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer.”—Matthew 21:21–22

If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you. But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord.—James 1:5–7

PRAY IN JESUS’ NAME. Jesus’ death on the cross removed the “sin block” for all who believe. The lines of communication are now open for those who trust in Christ. This is what it means to pray in Jesus’ name, for only through Jesus will any prayer be heard by God.

You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you.—John 15:16

Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete.—John 16:24

PRAY WITH A CLEAR MIND AND SELF-CONTROL.

The end of all things is near. Therefore be alert and of sober mind so that you may pray.—1 Peter 4:7

PRAY IN AGREEMENT WITH OTHER BELIEVERS.

Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.”—Matthew 18:19–20

“No learning can make up for the failure to pray. No earnestness, no diligence, no study, no gifts will supply its lack.” —E.M. Bounds

KEEP ON PRAYING. Persevere as you wait for the Lord to answer. Pray and don’t give up.

Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.—Romans 12:12

“Don’t pray when you feel like it. Have an appointment with the Lord and keep it. A man is powerful on his knees.”—Corrie Ten Boom

How Not to Pray

God does not expect us to be perfect to come to him in prayer, but he does expect us to be honest. Prayer should be the place where we meet God honestly and openly. The Bible tells us that the prayers that God does not accept are the prayers of hypocrisy.

PRAYERS THAT ARE SPOKEN TO PAT OURSELVES ON THE BACK (Luke 18:9–14).

“God, I thank you that I am not like other people—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector.”—Luke 18:11

PRAYERS THAT ARE PRAYED ALL THE WHILE IGNORING GOD’S INSTRUCTIONS (Psalm 66:18–20). God cares more about whether we are following him and how we are treating others, rather than if we are simply “going through the motions” of prayer. Those prayers end up being empty and hindered (1 Peter 3:7).

*If anyone turns a deaf ear to my instruction, even their prayers are detestable.
—Proverbs 28:9*

For I desire mercy, not sacrifice, and acknowledgment of God rather than burnt offerings.—Hosea 6:6

PRAYERS THAT ARE FOR SELFISH REASONS. God knows all desires and no secret is hidden from him. Real prayer is an attitude of the heart (1 Thess. 5:16–18).

You desire but do not have, so you kill. You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight. You do not have because you do not ask God. When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.—James 4:2–3

PRAYERS THAT ARE LONG AND LOUD TO GET ATTENTION AND ADMIRATION FROM OTHER PEOPLE (Mark 12:40; Luke 20:47).

And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.—Matthew 6:5–8

“We may pray most when we say least, and we may pray least when we say most.”—Augustine of Hippo

When God Says No

Anyone who has made prayer a part of his or her life knows that not everything asked for in prayer is granted. Prayer requests are just that, “requests,” not demands or magic words that will make something happen. God hears our prayers and makes them effective, but he ultimately decides how to answer them—and sometimes that answer is no. “No” is one of the shortest yet hardest words to hear. But what does God’s “no” mean? Often his “no” is not a “No way!” or “Forget about it,” but rather it is, “No, I have something better in mind.”

MOSES *Deut. 3:23–27*

Moses asked to cross over the Jordan River to see the Promised Land. God said “No,” but he let Moses view the land from the top of a mountain.

DAVID *2 Sam. 7*

King David asked to set up God’s temple. God said “No,” but promised to set up David’s kingdom forever, and later allowed David’s son, Solomon, to build God’s temple.

MARY AND MARTHA *John 11*

Mary and Martha asked Jesus to come quickly and heal their dying brother, but instead Jesus waited until their brother died. Then Jesus did something beyond their wildest expectations: he raised their brother from the dead! He answered their hearts’ longing in a different way than what they had asked for.

PAUL *2 Cor. 12:7–10*

Paul pleaded three times for God to free him from a problem (the “thorn in his flesh”), but God did not remove it. However, through accepting the problem, Paul found that God’s grace was sufficient for him and that power is made perfect in weakness. Paul found a greater meaning in his unanswered prayer.

JESUS *Matt. 26:36–42; MARK 14:32–36; LUKE 22:39–44; JOHN 18:11*

Jesus’ prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane is the only prayer Jesus made that was denied. He prayed, that if it were possible, the suffering he was about to experience would be avoided. Yet he also prayed, “not my will, but yours be done.” This example should teach us that there are some things we ask for—good as they may seem—that are not God’s will for us. Jesus accepted the Father’s will that he should suffer on our behalf. And just look at the powerful results: the forgiveness of sins and Jesus’ resurrection from the dead! In Jesus’ case, as in ours, the ultimate outcome from God will be life out of death.

“God’s answers are wiser than our prayers.”
—Unknown

When God Seems Silent



Sometimes we pray for change in our lives or the lives of our loved ones, and yet nothing happens. We do what we can, but God seems silent. From our perspective, our prayers may look like they are falling on deaf ears. Should we keep praying? Jesus addresses this important concern through two parables.

THE PARABLE OF THE FRIEND IN NEED LUKE 11:5–13

After Jesus teaches his disciples how to pray in the Lord's Prayer, he continues to instruct them through a story about a man who needs to borrow some food from a friend late at night for a visitor who is coming. Jesus says that the man will receive what he needs from his friend, not because his friend is so generous, but simply because of the man's persistence in asking.

The Lesson: God, who is far more generous than the friend, will surely supply our needs if we consistently ask him.

THE PARABLE OF PERSISTENT WIDOW LUKE 18:1–8

"Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up" (v. 1). In this parable, a widow keeps coming back day after day to seek justice from a corrupt judge. Though the judge does not care about the woman's concern, he gets tired of her bothering him so he grants her justice.

The Lesson: If even a corrupt judge grants persistent requests, how much more will God who is just and cares for us bring about justice in our lives when we continue to call on him.

Waiting for God to Answer



As we pray for all the things we want and need and hope for, we must remember that prayer is learning what God wants for our lives. When we make God our top priority in prayer, our will begins to align with his will. As we stay connected to God, he will transform our hearts to his will (See John 15).

But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.—Matthew 6:33 (Luke 12:31)

Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.... Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him.—Psalm 37:3–7a

One thing I ask from the Lord, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple.—Psalm 27:4

The Who, What, Where, When and Why of Prayers in the Bible

The Bible provides us with many examples of all kinds of people praying for all sorts of things—in all imaginable situations! These examples show us that we can pray anytime and anywhere.

Who prayed?

- A national leader (Moses)
Ex. 32:11–13, 31–32; Num. 14:13–19
- A child (Samuel) *1 Sam. 3:10*
- A military commander (Joshua)
Josh. 7:6–9
- A weak man, once strong (Samson)
Judg. 16:28
- A childless wife (Hannah)
1 Sam. 1:10–11
- Priests *2 Chron. 30:27*
- Foreigners from distant lands
2 Chron. 6:32–33
- An elderly widow (Anna)
Luke 2:36–38
- A man on his deathbed (Hezekiah)
Isa. 38:2–3
- A prophet (Isaiah) *Isa. 6:8*
- A king and musician (David) *Ps. 139*
- A grieving man (Jeremiah) *Lam. 3*
- A rebellious man (Jonah) *Jon. 2:2–9*
- Frightened sailors *Jon. 1:14*
- An elderly priest (Zechariah)
Luke 1:13
- A blind beggar (Bartimaeus)
Mark 10:47
- Jesus' family (his brothers and mother) *Acts 1:14*
- The Son of God *John 17*
- A seeking Gentile (Cornelius)
Acts 10:31
- Widows *1 Tim. 5:5*
- Worshipers in heaven *Rev. 11:15–18*

Why did they pray?

- Were afraid for their life (Moses)
Ex. 17:4–5
- Felt betrayed by God (Moses)
Num. 11:10–15
- A sister was ill (Moses for Miriam)
Num. 12:13
- Feared enemy nations (Joshua)
Josh. 6–8
- Wanted revenge (Samson) *Judg. 16:28*
- Experienced life-changing disasters (Job) *Job 1:20–21*
- Were thankful to God for a child (Hannah) *1 Sam. 2:1–10*
- Saw God fulfill his promise (Solomon) *1 Kings 8:23–53*
- Didn't know what to do (Jehoshaphat) *2 Chron. 20:1–12*
- Couldn't go on anymore (Elijah)
1 Kings 19:4

- Had a big decision and move to make (Nehemiah) *Neh. 2:4*
- Were very depressed *Ps. 116:3-4*
- A boy was demon possessed (Jesus' teaching) *Mark 9:29*
- Were thankful for other believers (Paul) *Eph. 1:16; 1 Thess. 1:2*
- Had new church leaders appointed *Acts 6:6; 14:23*
- A woman had died (Peter for Tabitha) *Acts 9:40-42*
- A father was ill (Paul for Publius's father) *Acts 28:8*
- Were awaiting the Lord's return (John) *Rev. 22:20*

What did they pray for?

- To spare a wicked city (Abraham for Sodom) *Gen. 18:23-25*
- A bride (Abraham's servant) *Gen. 24:12-14*
- Protection from a brother (Jacob) *Gen. 32:9-12*
- Their grandsons (Jacob) *Gen. 48:15-16*
- Someone else to do the work (Moses) *Ex. 4:13*
- To see God (Moses) *Ex. 33:18*
- To see the Promised Land (Moses) *Deut. 3:23-25*
- A child to be raised from the dead (Elijah for a widow's son) *1 Kings 17:21*
- Parenting instructions (Samson's father) *Judg. 13:8*
- A sign from God (Gideon) *Judg. 6:17-18*
- More sunlight (Joshua) *Josh. 10:12*
- A son (Hannah) *1 Sam. 1:11*
- To know what God wants them to do (David) *2 Sam. 5:19-23*
- Thunder and rain (Samuel) *1 Sam. 12:16-17*
- Forgiveness for adultery and murder (David) *Ps. 51; 2 Sam. 12:16*
- Wisdom (Solomon) *1 Kings 3:9*
- A heart wholly devoted to God *Ps. 86:11*
- Fire from heaven (Elijah) *1 Kings 18:36-38*
- Success (Jabez) *1 Chron. 4:10*
- Protection for their city (Hezekiah) *2 Kings 19:14-19*
- Strengthened hands (Nehemiah) *Neh. 6:9*
- Revival *Ps. 85:6-7*
- Protection from Satan (Jesus) *John 17:15*
- New believers to receive the Holy Spirit (Peter and John for believers in Samaria) *Acts 8:15*
- To speak God's Word with boldness (Apostles) *Acts 4:24-30; Eph. 6:19-20*
- Salvation of the Jews (Paul) *Rom. 10:1*
- That other believers would do right *2 Cor. 13:7*
- That the eyes of one's heart may be opened *Eph. 1:18*
- Government leaders *1 Tim. 2:1-2*
- Good health (John for Gaius) *3 John 1:2*
- The gospel to be spread *2 Thess. 3:1*

Where did they pray?

- Outdoors (Abraham's Servant)
Gen. 24:11–12
- On the battlefield (Joshua)
Josh. 7:6–9
- At the altar (Solomon)
2 Chron. 6:12–14
- In their room (Daniel) *Dan. 6:10*
- In bed *Psa. 63:6*
- Inside the belly of a whale (Jonah)
Jonah 2:2–9
- On a mountainside (Jesus)
Luke 6:12; 9:28
- At the temple (Pharisee and tax collector) *Luke 18:10*
- From prison (Paul and Silas)
Acts 16:25
- On the beach (disciples) *Acts 21:5*

When did they pray?

- At midnight *Psa. 119:62; Acts 16:25*
- Three times a day (Daniel) *Dan. 6:10*
- All through the night (Samuel)
1 Sam. 15:11
- Every morning *Psa. 5:3*
- At fixed times daily *Psa. 55:17*
- Very early in the morning (Jesus)
Mark 1:35
- While nearly drowning (Peter)
Matt. 14:30
- While being crucified (Thief on the cross) *Luke 23:42*
- While being martyred (Stephen)
Acts 7:59–60
- During a period set apart for prayer
1 Cor. 7:5

How did they pray?

- Sitting (David) *2 Sam. 7:18*
- Standing (Solomon)
1 Kings 8:22 (Also Mark 11:25)
- Kneeling (Peter) *Acts 9:40 (Also Dan. 6:10; Eph. 3:14; 1 Kings 8:54)*
- Facing Jerusalem (Daniel) *Dan. 6:10*
- In whispers *Isa. 26:16*
- In silence (Hannah) *1 Sam. 1:13*
- In a loud voice (Ezra) *Ez. 11:13*
- Looking up (Jesus) *John 11:41*
- With hands toward heaven (Solomon) *1 Kings 8:22 (Also Psa. 28:2)*
- With face to the ground (Jesus)
Matt. 26:39
- With bitter weeping (Hezekiah)
Isa. 38:2–3
- With tears and crying (Ezra)
Ezra 10:1 (Also Jesus; Heb. 5:7)
- With joy! (Paul) *Phil. 1:4*
- As a group (believers) *Acts 1:14*
- Alone (Jesus) *Matt. 14:23*
- In unison (believers) *Acts 4:24*
- Earnestly! (Paul, Silas, and Timothy)
1 Thess. 3:10



The Lord's Prayer

MATTHEW 6:9–13; LUKE 11:2–4

When Jesus' disciples wanted to know how to pray, he taught them a prayer that is known today as "The Lord's Prayer." But this prayer is not so much Jesus' prayer as it is our prayer—it is how Jesus wants all his followers to pray.

The Seven Petitions

	Petition	Meaning
"Your"	1 Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,	God's holiness comes first. We should set forth God's name as holy.
	2 your kingdom come,	God's sovereignty is a fact affirmed by believers. We pray for the day when the world will see God's rule.
	3 your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.	God's authority extends over all his creation. We pray for his authority to be known and obeyed in all the earth.
"Us"	4 Give us today our daily bread.	God's providence for our daily needs means that we may pray in faith that God will provide what we need or a way to obtain what we need.
	5 And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.	God's forgiveness of our sins (debts) is possible because of Jesus' sacrifice on the cross. We can expect to see God's mercy in our lives according to how merciful we are to others (Mark 11:25).
	6 And lead us not into temptation,	God's protection from the things that will trip us up and undo us is something we need to ask for. Whether in trial or out of trial, we should seek God's protection.
	7 but deliver us from the evil one.	God's deliverance from enemies and especially from death and the Devil are legitimate concerns. We can be confident in our prayers for deliverance because we are more than conquerors through Christ (Rom. 8:37).



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Authors: Jessica Curiel, MA; William Brent Ashby, BT

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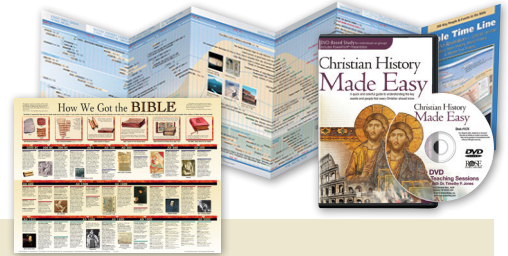


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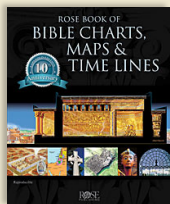
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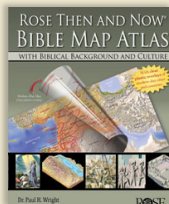
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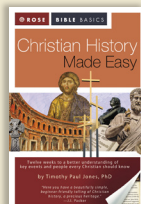
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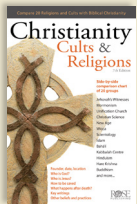


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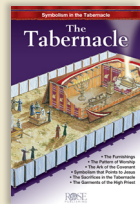


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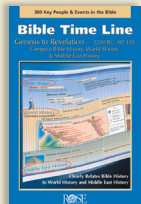
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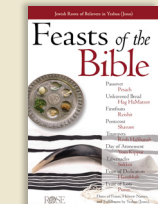
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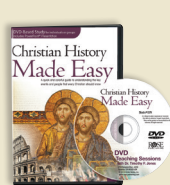


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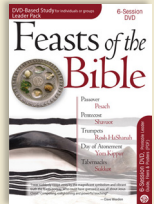


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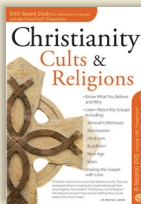
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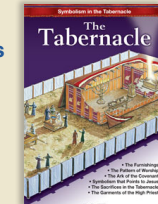
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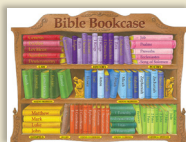


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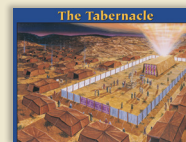
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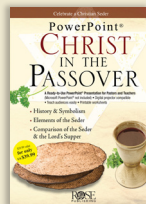


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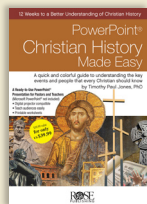
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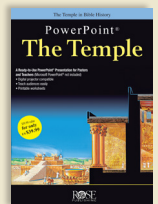
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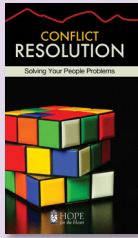
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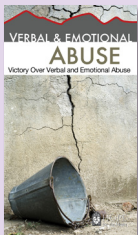
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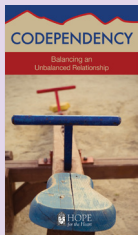
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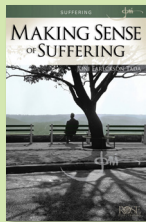
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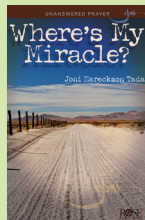
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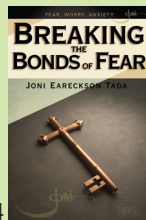
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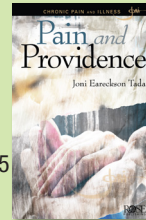
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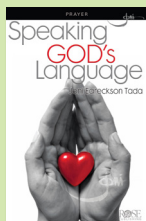
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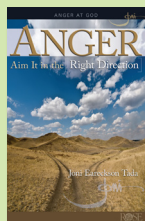
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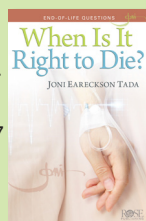
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