

Tony Mest—Dream Team / Teaching Pastor September 14, 2025

PRAYER

Prayer is more than just talking to God; it's living in constant awareness of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. When we remain connected to Him, His presence reshapes how we see, guides our choices, and transforms the way we live each day.

Prayer is communion with God Himself.

Never stop praying. 1 Thessalonians 5:17 NLT

⁵ "When you pray, don't be like the hypocrites who love to pray publicly on street corners and in the synagogues where everyone can see them. I tell you the truth, that is all the reward they will ever get. ⁶ But when you pray, go away by yourself, shut the door behind you, and pray to your Father in private. Then your Father who sees everything, will reward you. ⁷ When you pray, don't babble on and on as the Gentiles do. They think their prayers are answered merely by repeating their words again and again. ⁸ Don't be like them, for your Father knows exactly what you need even before you ask him! ⁹ Pray like this: Our Father in heaven, may your name be kept holy. ¹⁰ May your Kingdom come soon. May your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. ¹¹ Give us today the food we need, ¹² and forgive us our sings, as we have forgiven those who sin against us. ¹³ And don't let us yield to temptation, but rescue us from the evil one." Matthew 6:5-13 NLT

Pray from the Heart, Not for Attention— "When you pray, don't be like the hypocrites…But when you pray, go away by yourself, shut the door behind you, and pray to your Father in private." (v.5-6)

Private prayer strengthens <u>public</u> faith.

Pray with Simplicity— "When you pray, don't babble on...your Father knows exactly what you need even before you ask Him!" (v. 7-8)

Make It Personal—"Our Father in heaven…" (v. 9)

Lead with Praise—"May your name be kept holy." (v. 9)

Align with His Plans—"May your Kingdom come soon. May your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven." (v. 10)

Prayer is not about pulling God into our story. It's about aligning our story with His.

¹⁹ So Jesus explained, "I tell you the truth, the Son can do nothing by himself. He does only what he sees the Father doing. Whatever the Father does, the Son also does." **John 5:19 NLT**

Give Us Today What We Need—"Give us today the food we need." (v.11)

Clear the Air—"And forgive us our sins, as we have forgiven those who sin against us." (v. 12)

Pray for Protection— "And don't let us yield to temptation, but rescue us from the evil one." (v. 13)

The ultimate point of Prayer is not to get something from God; it's to get God.

⁹ If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by openly declaring your faith that you are saved. **Romans 10:9-10 NLT**