

WHY SHOULD WE PRAY?



OUR DAILY BREAD

Junior Edition

5-11-08



SOMETHING YOU MUST KNOW:

God is perfect. He is Holy. We are all sinners. *For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.*

(Romans 3:23a KJB)

None of us could ever make ourselves perfect or holy to be accepted by God. But God loves us all so much, that He gave His only Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, to go to the cross and pay the penalty for our sins IN FULL, ONCE and FOR ALL. Jesus died and rose again. Because of the Lord Jesus Christ, God can now make us holy and acceptable to Himself. *For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit.* (1 Peter 3:18 KJB)

Jesus Christ is our ONLY WAY to God and heaven.

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life, no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

(John 14:6 KJB)

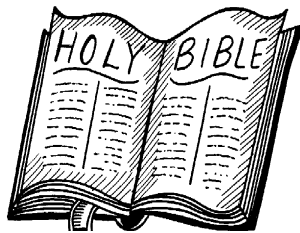
Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved. (Acts 16:31 KJB)

Without Jesus Christ, you can NEVER be accepted by God or go to heaven. When you believe in Jesus Christ as your Savior, God makes you His child. When you leave this world, you will spend all of eternity with Him! *But as many as received him to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name.* (John 1:12 KJB) While you are still here on earth, learn His beautiful Word. Believe it and obey it, so you can enjoy all God has done for you.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom.

(Colossians 3:16a KJB)

God's written Word tells us a VERY IMPORTANT FACT about God. As you read this next scripture, take special notice of all the underlined words. Those underlined words tell us something that we should KNOW about God!



"O LORD, thou hast searched me, and known me.
Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising, thou understandest my thought afar off.

Thou compassest my path and my lying down, and art acquainted with all my ways.

For *there is* not a word in my tongue, *but*, lo, O LORD, thou knowest it altogether."

Psalm 139:1-4 KJB

Did you get it? What WE should KNOW about God is that GOD KNOWS ALL ABOUT US! HE KNOWS EVERYTHING that there is to know about us - our PAST - our PRESENT - our FUTURE, including our future into eternity!

In fact, God not only KNOWS ALL there is to know about us, God KNOWS EVERYTHING about EVERY THING! God is OMNISCIENT! OMNISCIENT means ALL -KNOWING!

And because God knows everything, He ALREADY KNOWS what we will pray for!!!
Read this next scripture:

“And it shall come to pass,
that before they call, I will answer;
and while they are yet speaking I will hear.”

Isaiah 65:24 KJB



Now although this particular scripture speaks specifically of a time that is still FUTURE in history, it tells us that God ALREADY KNOWS our every THOUGHT - our every PRAYER! Because if God knows what these certain people in the FUTURE will call out to Him for BEFORE they call, He certainly knows what EVERYONE else will call out to Him for during ALL parts of history! Why is that so? Well, God Himself tells us why:

“For I *am* the LORD, I change not:

Malachi 3:6 KJB

And who is THE LORD? Jesus Christ is THE LORD GOD!
Again, here is what GOD says about HIMSELF:

“Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.

Hebrews 13:8 KJB

If God says that at some FUTURE time, He is going to know & answer certain people BEFORE they call out to Him, He ALREADY KNOWS our every THOUGHT & our every PRAYER also because God is the SAME yesterday, today & TOMORROW!!!

So o o o o o!!!

Then WHY do we need to pray???????????????

Well the **FIRST & MOST IMPORTANT**
reason is that

THE LORD TELLS US WE SHOULD!

Here are just a **FEW** scriptures which tell us that
the Lord says **WE SHOULD, WE MUST PRAY!**:

*"And he (Jesus) spake a parable unto them to
this end (for this reason) that men ought always to
pray, and not to faint;"* Luke 18:1KJB



When Jesus said we **OUGHT
ALWAYS TO PRAY, AND
NOT TO FAINT**, He meant
that we should **NOT GET
TIRED OF PRAYING!** We
should **NOT GET DISCOUR-
AGED PRAYING!** Even if it

seems that we have been praying about a certain
thing or for a certain person or people **FOR YEARS,**
WE SHOULD NOT GIVE UP PRAYING for that
certain thing or certain person or people! God has
PROMISED that when our **PRAYERS** line up with
HIS WILL for things & people, He **HEARS** our
prayers & has **ALREADY ANSWERED THEM!**
It's just that it often takes what we think is a **LONG
TIME** for us to **SEE** God's answer! We **MUST
REMEMBER** that God has to **WORK LOTS OF
THINGS TOGETHER** in our lives & the lives of
others before the thing we pray for can happen! But
even though it may seem like a **LONG TIME TO
PRAY**, we must **NEVER FAINT!** God gives **ALL**
His children a **WONDERFUL PROMISE** about an-

swering our prayers with a YES when we pray according to HIS WILL! (And REMEMBER! The ONLY way you can EVER know God's will is to KEEP ON READING HIS WORD EVERY DAY! The only place we can find out what God wants for us & others is in His WRITTEN WORD, now all preserved for us to READ in our King James Bible of 1611!) Here is God's promise to ALL His children:

"And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us:

And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him." 1 John 5:14-15 KJB

So DON'T
FAINT!

Instead, KEEP ON READING
GOD'S WORD & PRAYING
ACCORDING TO GOD'S WILL!



Now here are more scriptures that tell us that WE SHOULD, WE MUST PRAY!

"Pray without ceasing.
In every thing give thanks: for this is the
will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."

1Thessalonians 5:17-18 KJB

Now THAT sure is clear! KEEP ON PRAYING! Never give up! And SEE! There is a scripture that CLEARLY states God's will for you if

YOU are a believer in Jesus Christ! What did that scripture say is GOD'S WILL FOR YOU?

"Pray without ceasing.

In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."

There are LOTS more scriptures about prayer. Here are just a few more that you can SEARCH OUT on your own. They ALL tell us that God says

WE ARE TO PRAY!

Acts 6:4; Acts 12:5; 1Timothy 2:1-6;

Colossians 4:2-6; Ephesians 6:18.

So far we have learned that God ALREADY KNOWS everything we will ever pray for. We have learned that even though God ALREADY KNOWS, He STILL wants us to PRAY! In fact, READ THIS:

"The sacrifice of the wicked *is* an abomination to the LORD:

but the prayer of the upright *is* his delight."

Proverbs

15:8 KJB



"The LORD *is* far from the wicked: but he heareth the prayer of the

righteous."

Proverbs 15:29 KJB

NOW THERE IS ANOTHER REASON
WHY WE SHOULD PRAY!

GOD LOVES TO HEAR OUR PRAYERS!

Did you know that when we PRAY to God our Father, that

we are really TALKING TO HIM? Prayer is the way God has given us to TALK WITH HIM! God LOVES when we spend time TALKING TO HIM!



How are we to talk to Him?

Like a CHILD talks to his or her Dad or Mom!

If you have accepted Jesus as your Savior, YOU are now God's child.

Read John 1:12-13 KJB

“And because ye are sons (children of God), God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying Abba, Father.” Galatians 4:6 KJB

And BECAUSE you can call God “Father” the instant you believe in Jesus as your Savior, God wants you to KNOW that He will take PERFECT CARE of YOU! Even though He ALREADY KNOWS your every hurt & problem, joy & sorrow, God STILL wants you to SPEND TIME WITH HIM TALKING TO HIM IN PRAYER! He LOVES you! Don't YOU LOVE to spend time talking with people you LOVE? Well, God sure does! He says so!

Also, let's just THINK for a moment! If you NEVER asked God for ANYTHING, HOW would you EVER KNOW that He CAN & DOES ANSWER PRAYERS! If you never asked God for anything, you WOULD NOT EVER KNOW THAT! But when you DO ask God to help you with some-

thing, it gives GOD the opportunity to show you something VERY SPECIAL! When you talk with God & pray for something that He says is GOOD, & when what you are praying for lines up with HIS WILL for you or for someone you are praying for, God has the OPPORTUNITY to show you that HE IS REAL & that HE REALLY DOES HEAR YOUR PRAYERS! When He answers you in His time & His way, you'll SEE that He is REAL & DOES HEAR YOU! That is another reason God wants us to PRAY. Our prayers give GOD the opportunity to PROVE to us that He LOVES us & CAN & WILL take care of us, His children forever!

And finally, when God can prove THAT to us, something else happens! Our FAITH in Him gets stronger & stronger. We grow to TRUST HIM & LOVE HIM more & more. We'll find ourselves spending MORE & MORE time TALKING TO OUR FATHER ALL THROUGHOUT OUR DAY! Then we'll be OBEYING GOD'S COMMAND to

"Pray without ceasing.

In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."

1Thessalonians 5:17-18 KJB

WHY should we PRAY even though God KNOWS ALL?

1. God tells us to!
2. God LOVES to hear & answer our prayers!
3. Prayer is our way to TALK to our Father who loves us!
4. Prayer gives God the opportunity to PROVE to us that He is REAL & CAN & WILL take care of us!
5. Prayer helps our FAITH grow stronger as we see how God

GRACE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Pastor John A. Ricci

Sunday Morning Service

10:00 A.M.

Sunday Transportation Service ~ Call 24 hours Prior

Weekly Services

Wednesday & Friday Evenings, 7:30 P.M.

Prayer Meeting

Wednesday & Friday Evenings, 7:00-7:20 P.M.

Communion Service

First Sunday of Every Month

Children's Prep School (Ages 5-14) & Mother's Room

Available for Every Service

Email

info@gracecfellowship.org

Directions

From I-95

- RI Exit #22; *Left* at split to **Rt. 6 W.**
- Take Killingly St (Rt. 128) Exit; *Right* off Exit.
- Take Killingly to end; *Right* on Manton Ave; cross bridge.
- Turn *Left* at light (CVS on corner), and then bear *Left* at the split. You are now on Woonasquatucket Ave.
- Go about 1 mi.
- **G.C.F.** is on the *Left*.

From Rt. 146

- Mineral Spring Ave Exit in Providence.
- From **146 N** turn *Left* off Exit; from **146 S** turn *Right*.
- Take Mineral Spring to end and stay *Left* around the rotary (pass North Providence Town Hall).
- Take next *Right* onto Woonasquatucket Ave.
- Go about 1½ mi.
- **G.C.F.** is on the *Right*.



Grace Christian Fellowship

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