

BIBLE STUDY #10

Prayer: Importance

Prayer is conversation with God. No Christian can live effectively for Christ without spending time in prayer daily.

"The measure of any Christian is his prayer life." –Vance Havner

Read the following verses and explain what they say about prayer:

Proverbs 15:8

Matthew 26:41

Ephesians 6:18

Philippians 4:6

Colossians 4:2

1 Thessalonians 5:17

GOD'S RESPONSE TO PRAYER

In the next Bible study, you will be learning how to pray. In this study it is important to also understand God answers prayer. For any prayer that you pray, you will get one of four responses:

First, you may get no response. If there is sin in your life (to be dealt with in later Bible studies), you may be unable to hear from God.

Read **Isaiah 59:2**. What does this say about how sin affects prayer?

This is a tragic position you want to avoid in your Christian life. The good news is, if our relationship is right with the Lord, we will always get one of the next three responses.

Read **John 9:31**. God listens to what kind of person, according to this verse?

Second, God may say "yes" to your request.

Read **John 15:16**. What does this say the Father will give you if you ask according to His Will?

Third, God may say "no" to your request.

Read **2 Corinthians 12:7-9**. Remember, if God says "no," it is always the best for you. How many times did Paul ask God to remove his thorn in the flesh?

Fourth, God may say "wait" to your request. Sometimes God may have a reason for delaying. You may not always understand the reasoning for this, but you can trust Him.

Read **Psalms 27:13-14**. How should we handle waiting for answers to our prayers?

Overall, what do you think/feel God is saying to you through this lesson?

ASSIGNMENTS

_____1. **Scripture Memory: James 5:16b (NIV)**, "The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective."

_____2. **Bible Study: #10**

_____3. **Quiet Time:** Have at least three quiet times this week. Use your quiet time sheets to record your time with God. At a minimum, complete the following:

John 5:1-30

John 5:31-47

Psalms 5