

THE WHO, WHY, AND HOW OF PRAYER

(Part 4)



1 TIMOTHY 2:1-8, PEW BIBLE PAGE #1234

- Most Christians want to have an effective and fruitful prayer life, but they find themselves asking questions.
- Our text answers many important questions about prayer.

How should we pray?

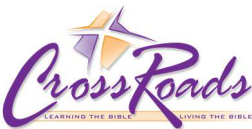
- We are to pray with a _____ heart.
 - ⇒ A person can _____ anger and bitterness from others, but not from the Lord.
 - ⇒ Wrath has to do with the believer's attitude toward _____. It speaks of bitterness towards others.
 - ⇒ Wrath is said to be a work of the _____ (Galatians 5:19-20). Why is this? Because it reveals a lack of forgiveness and is a sin of the heart.
 - ⇒ When you give place to wrath (Romans 12:19), you grieve the Holy Spirit of God, which will naturally _____ you greatly in your prayer life.
 - ⇒ *"And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption. Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."* **Ephesians 4:30-32**

- ⇒ *“Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled.”* **Hebrews 12:15**
- ⇒ Anger turned _____ is like a time bomb waiting to explode.
- ⇒ Make a decision to forgive and extend mercy and _____ to others.

● **We are to pray with _____.**

- ⇒ *“But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.”* **Hebrews 11:6**
- ⇒ *“Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us.”* **Ephesians 3:20**
- ⇒ One of the areas we struggle with the most is believing that God _____ our prayers.
- ⇒ The blood of Christ has given you open access to _____ to God in prayer 24/7.
- ⇒ *“For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father... In whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of him.”* **Ephesians 2:18, 3:12**
- ⇒ *“Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus.”* **Hebrews 10:19**
- ⇒ So to pray in faith means that when you make a conscious choice to talk to God in prayer, you do so with total dependence upon Christ and His finished work.

If you are harboring wrath and doubt, you won't **want** to pray. They will rob you of your joy and take away that _____ to talk to God.



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