

Growing Through Prayer

Luke 11:1-13

The amazing thing about prayer comes from an amazing God. Therefore, prayer is a focus on God. Our lesson today is about growing through prayer. Do you want to grow closer to God? Practice prayer. Do you want a new life, new attitude, to grow in a certain area? Pray.

How is having faith in God different from having faith in prayer?

I. Growing Through Prayer Is Faith

What is the difference between faith and faith only?

What is involved in faith? Faith receives, responds, obeys, and lives. Faith is not for the moment but is for life. The righteous man shall live by faith (Romans 1:17; Galatians 3:11). How do we know faith works? Hebrews 11 is Heaven's Hall of Fame. They lived by faith. Prayer is the voice of the faithful. Prayer is effort, persistence, faith in action.

What should the Christians true goal be in prayer? How do we learn to pray?

How is saying a prayer different from praying?

II. Growing Through Prayer Is Force

When the church prayed in Acts the house shook! The disciples recognized Jesus had something they did not, and they wanted what He had!

What qualities did Jesus' disciples see in His prayer life?

What would happen to this church if you all began to pray? Churches of Christ as a whole?

What are some prayer clichés that have lost their force?

III. Growing Through Prayer Is Form

Even though the disciples asked to “teach us to pray,” the how is implied. We must always begin with the basics in anything. We don’t fail in the “trick plays” of football we fail in basic blocking and tackling. Prayer is force with form.

IV. Growing Through Prayer Is Perseverance

To pray is to think, seek, knock and ask. God is not a genie in a bottle. That means prayer is work and it is difficult, it takes time. Prayer requires my heart and my life not just my lips. Prayer is us persevering. Too few of us pray.

What are some lessons we can learn from Luke 11:5-8?

V. Growing Through Prayer Is Receiving

Luke 11:9 ...“ask and it shall be given to you; seek, and you shall find; knock, and it shall be opened to you.” Someone observed that 667 definite requests appear in the bible, with 654 having specific answers. That is high percentage!

What are some ways God can answer our prayers?

Consider these questions: If we knew that Jesus would return tomorrow, how much of today would be given to prayer? In heaven won’t most of us confess, I should have prayed more?