



## SENIOR HIGH BIBLE MEMORY: PRAYER

2025

### I. PRAYER IS VERBAL EXPRESSION OF OUR FEELINGS AND NEEDS TO GOD.

#### A. We pray directly to God. Psalm 5:2

Hearken unto the voice of my cry, my King, and my God: for unto thee will I pray.

##### 1. We are to pray with humility. Psalm 10:17

LORD, thou hast heard the desire of the humble: thou wilt prepare their heart, thou wilt cause thine ear to hear:

##### 2. We are to pray in Jesus' name. John 16:23

And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give *it* you.

##### 3. We are to pray in the Holy Spirit. Jude 20-21

20 But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,  
21 Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

##### 4. We are to pray truthfully. Psalm 145:18

The LORD *is* nigh unto all them that call upon him, to all that call upon him in truth.

##### 5. We are to pray boldly. Hebrews 10:19-22

19 Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus,  
20 By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh;  
21 And *having* an high priest over the house of God;  
22 Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.

##### 6. We are to pray confidently. I John 5:14

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

##### 7. We are to pray about matters persistently, importunately, without shame. Luke 11:8-10

8 I say unto you, Though he will not rise and give him, because he is his friend, yet because of his importunity he will rise and give him as many as he needeth.

9 And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.

10 For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

#### B. We are to pray from the heart, expressing our feelings and thoughts. Psalm 62:8

Trust in him at all times; ye people, pour out your heart before him: God *is* a refuge for us. Selah.

##### 1. Prayer may be audible. Psalm 77:1

I CRIED unto God with my voice, *even* unto God with my voice; and he gave ear unto me.

##### 2. Prayer may be silent because God knows the heart and its thoughts. I Chronicles 28:9

And thou, Solomon my son, know thou the God of thy father, and serve him with a perfect heart and with a willing mind: for the LORD searcheth all hearts, and understandeth all the imaginations of the thoughts: if thou seek him, he will be found of thee; but if thou forsake him, he will cast thee off for ever.

#### C. We are to pray concerning everything. Philippians 4:6

Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

##### 1. Prayer is adoration, expressing praise and thanksgiving. Hebrews 13:15

By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of *our* lips giving thanks to his name.

##### 2. Prayer is supplication, expressing a petition for mercy. Psalm 55:1

GIVE ear to my prayer, O God; and hide not thyself from my supplication.

###### a. We are to confess our sins and seek forgiveness. Matthew 6:12; I John 1:9

12 And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

###### b. We are to express our needs. Matthew 6:11

Give us this day our daily bread.

*Italicized words in Scripture quotations indicate words that are italicized in the King James Version.*



**c. We are to express our desires. Psalm 37:4**

Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

**3. Prayer is intercession, pleading another's cause. Romans 15:30**

Now I beseech you, brethren, for the Lord Jesus Christ's sake, and for the love of the Spirit, that ye strive together with me in *your* prayers to God for me;

**a. We are to pray for all men. I Timothy 2:1**

I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, *and* giving of thanks, be made for all men;

**b. We are to pray for kings and all in authority. I Timothy 2:2**

For kings, and *for* all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.

**c. We are to pray for our persecutors. Matthew 5:44**

But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;

**d. We are to pray for fellow believers. Ephesians 6:18**

Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

**e. We are to pray for the sick. James 5:14-15**

14 Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord:

15 And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.

**f. We are to pray for the ministers of the Gospel. II Thessalonians 3:1-2**

1 Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have *free* course, and be glorified, even as *it is* with you:

2 And that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men: for all *men* have not faith.

**II. THE BIBLE CLEARLY STATES WHO MAY PRAY.**

**A. Only believers may pray with the assurance that they are heard by God. John 9:31**

Now we know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshipper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth.

**B. The prayer for salvation from anyone will be heard by God. Romans 10:9, 10, 13.**

9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

13 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

**C. All believers share the privilege of prayer. Matthew 6:6; I Timothy 2:8**

6 But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.

8 I will therefore that men pray every where, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting.

**D. The Bible teaches that Christ continues to intercede for believers. Hebrews 7:25**

Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.

**E. The Bible teaches that the Holy Spirit also intercedes for us. Romans 8:26**

Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

**III. IT IS WRONG FOR THE CHRISTIAN TO FAIL TO PRAY.**

**A. Prayer is commanded. I Thessalonians 5:17**

Pray without ceasing.

**B. Prayer is pleasing to God. Psalm 141:2**

Let my prayer be set forth before thee *as* incense; *and* the lifting up of my hands *as* the evening sacrifice.



**C. We will not have if we do not ask. James 4:2**

Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not.

**IV. THE BIBLE TEACHES US WHEN TO PRAY.**

**A. The believer's heart is to remain in an attitude of continuing prayer and gratitude to God. Romans 12:12; Ephesians 5:20.**

12 Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer;

20 Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ;

**1. We are to pray at all times. Luke 18:1**

And he spake a parable unto them *to this end*, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint;

**2. We are to pray day and night. Psalm 88:1**

O LORD God of my salvation, I have cried day *and* night before thee:

**B. We are to pray in thankfulness before eating, as exemplified by Christ. Mark 8:6; I Timothy 4:4-5**

6 And he commanded the people to sit down on the ground: and he took the seven loaves, and gave thanks, and brake, and gave to his disciples to set before *them*; and they did set *them* before the people.

4 For every creature of God *is* good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving:

5 For it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer.

**C. We are to pray in times of trouble. Psalm 86:6-7**

6 Give ear, O LORD, unto my prayer; and attend to the voice of my supplications.

7 In the day of my trouble I will call upon thee: for thou wilt answer me.

**D. We are to pray in times of need. Hebrews 4:16**

Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

**E. We are to pray in times of affliction. James 5:13**

Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms.

**F. We are to pray when fearful. Psalm 55:5, 16**

5 Fearfulness and trembling are come upon me, and horror hath overwhelmed me.

16 As for me, I will call upon God; and the LORD shall save me.

**G. We are to pray for restored fellowship after confession of sin. Psalm 51:10, 12**

10 Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.

12 Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me *with thy* free spirit.

**V. ANSWERS TO PRAYER MAY TAKE DIFFERENT FORMS.**

**A. God has promised to answer requests made in His will. I John 5:14-15**

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

15 And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.

**B. God may answer prayer above our expectations. Ephesians 3:20**

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,

**C. God may answer prayer directly and immediately. Matthew 7:7-11**

7 Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:

8 For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

9 Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone?

10 Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent?

11 If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?

**D. God may delay an answer to prayer. Luke 18:7**

And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them?



**E. God may answer a prayer differently from our request. II Corinthians 12:7-9**

7 And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure.

8 For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me.

9 And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

**VI. THERE ARE HINDRANCES TO ANSWERS TO PRAYER WHICH THE BELIEVER MUST AVOID.**

**A. God will not answer if there is unconfessed sin in the heart. Psalm 66:18**

If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear *me*:

**B. God will not answer prayer if the motive is wrong or selfish. James 4:3**

Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts.

**C. God will not answer prayer if it is not made in faith. Matthew 21:22**

And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive.

**D. God will not answer prayer from an unforgiving heart. Mark 11:25-26**

25 And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.

26 But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses.

**E. God will not answer prayer made without regard to His will. Matthew 6:10**

Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as *it is* in heaven.

**F. God will not answer prayer from an unthankful heart. I Thessalonians 5:18**

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

**G. God will not answer prayer from a disobedient heart. I John 3:20-22**

20 For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things.

21 Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, *then* have we confidence toward God.

22 And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.

**H. God will not answer prayer from an ungiving heart. Luke 6:38**

Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.

**I. God will not answer prayer from a heart which is not abiding in Him. John 15:7**

If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

**J. God will not answer prayer from the partners in an inharmonious marriage relationship. I Peter 3:1, 7**

1 Likewise, ye wives, *be* in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives;

7 Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with *them* according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered.