

OBJECTIVE: To develop a consistent heart for daily, consistent, believing prayer and to understand what it is, what hinders it, and how do it.

PRINCIPLES:

1. God commands us to pray constantly--share our heart's desire with Him -- Psalms 62:8
2. Real prayer is specifically and confidently asking God for the humanly impossible -- Jeremiah 33:3
3. God often limits His work to answering prayer-- James 4:26-- in order to:
 - A. Build faith and love--Psa1ms 116:1, 2
 - B. Glorify His name--John 14:13, 14
 - C. Provide joy--John 16:24
 - D. Provide peace--Philippians 4:6, 7

VERSES TO MEMORIZE:

Matthew 21:22	Luke 18:1	Psalms 66: 18
John 16:24	Philippians 4:6, 7	Psalms 62:8
I John 5:14, 15	I Samuel 12:23	Hebrews 4: 16
Matthew 18:19, 20	Romans 8:26	Colossians 4:2
James 4:2, 3	Jeremiah 33:3	

SCRIPTURES AND KEY THOUGHTS:

John 17; Jesus' prayer for disciples
Matthew 6: 5-13; "Lord's Prayer"
Luke 18:1-14; persistent prayer
Mark 11:22-26; believing God
Nehemiah 1 and 2

HINDRANCES TO EFFECTIVE PRAYER:

1. Hard heart toward Jesus--John 15:7
2. Sin--Isaiah 59:1, 2
3. Carnality--Psalms 66:18
4. Wrong Motives--James 4:3
5. Lack of asking--James 4: 2b
6. Instability--James 1:5-8
7. Doubt--Matthew 21: 22
8. Unforgiving Spirit--Mark 11:25
9. Lack of domestic tranquility--I Peter 3:7
10. Lack of heart for God's Word--Proverbs 28:9
11. Unwillingness to unconditionally surrender to God's will--1 John 5:14, 15
12. Pride--Job 35:12, 13
13. Lack of compassion--Proverbs 21:13

PRAYER Bible Study

ILLUSTRATIONS:

1. Praying hand--adoration, confession, thanksgiving, supplication, intercession.
2. God has a warehouse of blessings boxed up, ready to send us, but we never ask.
3. Prayer is like a man jumping off into the Grand Canyon--God could catch him before he hits bottom, but He never promised He would. We can't always expect a "yes" answer unless He promises.
4. Personal testimony and answered prayers

PROJECTS:

1. Make a prayer list together
2. Study Paul's prayers in his letters
3. Listen to Gene Warr on talk on prayer: www.discipleshiplibrary.com (Type in the last name of the speaker in the top right-hand search box)
4. Read Power Through Prayer by E. M. Bounds
5. Study the lives of Praying Hyde and George Mueller