

## Lesson 7 Prayer

Prayer is communication with God, addressing to God directly thru Jesus Christ. Prayer may include petition, entreaty, supplication, thanksgiving, praise, singing, worship, and confession of sins.

### **The Importance of Prayer:**

#### **Luke 5:16**

*<sup>16</sup> So, He (Jesus) Himself often withdrew into the wilderness and prayed.*

- Jesus teaches us the importance of prayer in our daily lives and for the advancement of the Kingdom. As Jesus was fulfilling His purpose by His Father, prayer was an uncompromising key in the life of Jesus.

#### **Matthew 6:6**

*<sup>6</sup> But when you pray, go into your room, and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.*

- Jesus expects us to step into prayer to the Father in an intimate way. When you take the steps to honor the Father in prayer, He will begin to reveal Himself to you in your life.
- Prayer is not a torture or a punishment. It is a privilege we receive as children of God to step into prayer with Him.
- Remember to step into prayer with boldness and confidence knowing that the Father enjoys spending time with you.

#### **1 Timothy 2:1-2**

*<sup>1</sup> I urge you, first, to pray for all people. Ask God to help them; intercede on their behalf and give thanks for them. <sup>2</sup> Pray this way for kings and all who are in authority so that we can live peaceful and quiet lives marked by godliness and dignity.*

- Part of our Christian responsibility is to stand and pray for all people, as urged to us by Paul the Apostle. God asks us to submit people, people in authority and the blessing we receive is to live peaceful and quiet lives that come with godliness and dignity.

#### **Romans 12:12**

*<sup>12</sup> Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.*

- We are reminded to always be constant in prayer. This doesn't mean we should be on our knees always, but this does mean we should walk in the Holy Spirit as He leads us to pray throughout our daily lives.
- Never let go of your prayer life. There is a danger of allowing the flesh to take over your life if you are not continual in prayer.

## How to Pray:

### Luke 6:45

*<sup>45</sup> For out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.*

### Jeremiah 33:3

*<sup>3</sup> Call to me and I will answer you and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known.*

- Prayer will always be verbalized, and although God can understand the prayers of our hearts, Jesus encourages us to verbalize the prayers.
- The prophet Jeremiah tells us to “call unto the Lord.” There is power when we call out to God and not keep quiet during our prayer time.

### Exodus 24:4 | Establishing your Altar

*<sup>4</sup> Then Moses carefully wrote down all the Lord’s instructions. Early the next morning Moses got up and built an altar at the foot of the mountain. He also set up twelve pillars, one for each of the twelve tribes of Israel.*

- Abraham was known for building altars. Jesus withdrew Himself in the wilderness. Moses climbed the mountains. Every child of God and servant of God had an altar set up where they would meet with Almighty God daily.
- Setting aside a time daily, a location, and a distraction free zone will allow you to spend quality time with the Lord.
- A prayer time will include any of the following: praise, thanksgiving, confession of sins, reading of Scripture, worship, speaking in tongues and groanings that cannot be uttered.
- Allow yourself to be led by the Holy Spirit during your prayer time.