



Prayer 6

The practice of prayer

Places and times for prayer:

- *Private prayer* (Mk.1:35-37; Mt.6:6)
Why did Jesus pray alone? Why should we?
- *Corporate prayer* (Act.4:23-24,29; Act.12:1-5)
Why do Christians pray together?
- *Urgent prayer* (Neh.2:1-5; Jon.2:1)
Do we do this? If not, why not?
- *Constant prayer* (1Thess.5:17; Eph.6:18)
What does this mean in practice?

"We should pray when we are in a praying mood, for it would be sinful to neglect so fair an opportunity. We should pray when we are not in a proper mood, for it would be dangerous to remain in so unhealthy a condition."
[C.H.Spurgeon]

The desire to pray:

Do we have a duty to pray?

Col.4:2; 1Tim.2:1; 1Sam.12:23

What if we don't feel like praying? Does it matter?

Mt.26:41; Jude 20

Is fervency in prayer important? What does it indicate?

Dan.9:19; Heb.5:7

If we've given up praying regularly, or we're finding it hard, what can we do?

**"Pray
until
you
pray"**

Praying in tongues:

Who can pray in tongues? (*1Cor.12:7-11*)

What does the gift of tongues enable a believer to do?
(*Act.2:4, 11^b; 1Cor.14:13-17*)

Is it biblical to use the gift of tongues for intercessory prayer?

What must a person who wants to speak in tongues do first of all? (*1Cor.14:27-28*)

Should we be concerned if we don't pray in tongues?
(*1Cor.14:18-19*)

Answers to prayer:

In what different ways may we see prayers answered?

- Miraculously
(*eg. Jos.10:12-13; Act.12:5-11*)
- In circumstances / providence
(*eg. Ex.14:10,21-22; Col.4:3*)
- Through other Christians
(*eg. Rom.15:25-26; Rom.12:13*)
- In Christian character and maturity
(*eg. Phil.1:9-11; Col.1:9*)

"Satan dreads nothing but prayer - his one concern is to keep saints from praying. He fears nothing from prayerless studies, prayerless work, prayerless religion. He laughs at our toil, mocks our wisdom, but trembles when we pray."

[Samuel Chadwick]