

It is important to ensure fellowship with God before the study of the Word.

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (**1 John 1:9**).

Standing on the Essence of God - -

Ephesians 3:20-21 Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us, ²¹ to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen.

Matthew 6:5-13 - PRAYER

"When you pray, you are not to be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and on the street corners so that they may be seen by men. Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full. ⁶ "But you, when you pray, go into your inner room, close your door and pray to your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees what is done in secret will reward you. ⁷ "And when you are praying, do not use meaningless repetition as the Gentiles do, for they suppose that they will be heard for their many words. ⁸ "So do not be like them; for your Father knows what you need before you ask Him. ⁹ "Pray, then, in this way: 'Our Father who is in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. ¹⁰ 'Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. ¹¹ 'Give us this day our daily bread. ¹² 'And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. ¹³ 'And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil. [For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.]' ¹⁴ "For if you forgive others for their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. ¹⁵ "But if you do not forgive others, then your Father will not forgive your transgressions.

1. It is wrong motivation to pray so that people think you are spiritual or to be noticed by others. vs. 5-6
2. Meaningless repetition [of words] is babble to God. vs. 7-8
3. God knows what you need – so *stop beating around the bush* - get to the point in the throne room of grace.
4. God provides an outline to be used in prayer in vs. 9-13.
5. The believer cannot bring an unforgiving soul into the throne room of grace. vs. 14-15

Matthew 6:25-34 - FAITH

*A lack of faith results in **worry** and **anxiety** in the soul of any believer.*

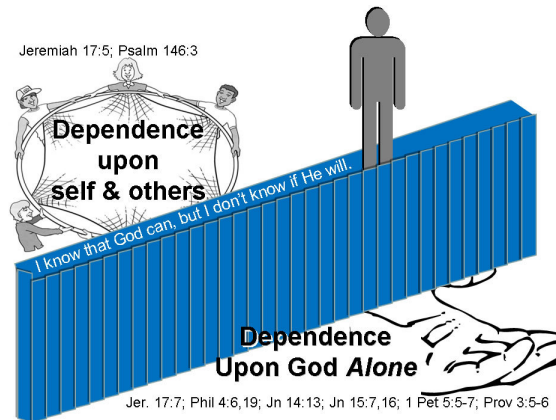
"For this reason I say to you, do not be worried about your life, as to what you will eat or what you will drink; nor for your body, as to what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶ "Look at the birds of the air, that they do not sow, nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they? ²⁷ "And who of you by being worried can add a single hour to his life? ²⁸ "And why are you worried about clothing? Observe how the lilies of the field grow; they do not toil nor do they spin, ²⁹ yet I say to you that not even Solomon in all his glory clothed himself like one of these. ³⁰ "But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the furnace, will He not much more clothe you? **You of little faith!** ³¹ "Do not worry then, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear for clothing?' ³² "For the Gentiles eagerly seek all these things; **for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.** ³³ "But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. ³⁴ "So do not worry about tomorrow; for tomorrow will care for itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

People who worry put little faith in the promises of God and in God Himself as their loving and benevolent Father!

No believer can fulfill God's will for his life apart from **faith** and **prayer**!

Faith = confidence in God that He will do what He has promised in His word.

Philippians 4:6 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.



Philippians 4:19 And my God will supply **all your needs** according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

Exodus 14:13 – *Let the Lord deliver!*

1 Peter 5:6-7 Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time, ⁷ casting all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you.

1 John 5:15 And if we know that He hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests which we have asked from Him.

Why are your prayers NOT answered?

PROTOCOL OF PRAYER

1. Address God the Father (Matt. 6:8-9).
2. By means of the Spirit (Eph. 6:18).
 - a. Filling (Eph. 5:18).
 - b. Leading (Gal. 5:18; Rom. 8:14).
 - c. Bearing Witness (Rom. 8:16; 9:1).
3. In the name of Jesus Christ (Jn. 14:13).
4. IAW the will of God (Jn. 14:13; Rom. 12:2, 8:26)
5. For the Glory of God (Jn 14:13).
6. With faith/trust (Jas. 1:6-7; Mk. 11:24).
7. Malleability to the will of God (Matt. 26:36-44; Rom. 8:26).

1. The “whatever,” “anything,” or “whatsoever you ask” is not pleasing or acceptable to God.
2. You ask with wrong motives of selfish desires. **James 4:3**
3. You ask without faith - wondering if God will? **James 1:6-7**
4. You might be functioning contrary to the word of God in your life. **John 15:7**

Matthew 6:33 – *The believer should be devoted to fulfilling the will of God for his life.*

What are “*all these things*”? _____

How do you seek? _____

Matthew 6:34 "So [in light of everything I've just taught you about **prayer** and **faith**] do not worry about tomorrow; for tomorrow will care for itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

To worry or be concerned. . .

To have anxiety. . .

The solution? _____

“. . . tomorrow will care for itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.”

Deuteronomy 31:8 "The LORD is the one who goes ahead of you; He will be with you. He will not fail you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed."

The believer's responsibility is to not worry but to pray and let the Lord go ahead of us!

Matthew 7:1-7

"Do not judge so that you will not be judged. ² "For in the way you judge, you will be judged; and by your standard of measure, it will be measured to you. ³ "Why do you look at the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? ⁴ "Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' and behold, the log is in your own eye? ⁵ "You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye. ⁶ "Do not give what is holy to dogs, and do not throw your pearls before swine, or they will trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you to pieces. ⁷ "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you."

"Great is Your faithfulness. . ." **Lamentations 3:22-25**

All Scriptures quoted are from New American Standard unless otherwise noted.