

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF PRAYER?

By: Fountain Hendricks

(1st Thessalonians 5:17)

If you do not understand the purpose behind praying you will not experience the power prayer produces. Praying is an act of faith. Praying to God connects you to His **VOICE**. Prayer is a communicative language that builds the bridge between humanity and divinity. It is very important to pray to God. However, it is **MORE** important to **UNDERSTAND** how to pray.

YOU CAN NEVER BENEFIT FROM
SOMETHING YOU DO NOT UNDERSTAND!

Understanding the purpose of prayer is not the same as knowing why you should pray. Most people know why they should pray. However, they **DO NOT** understand the

purpose of it. When you understand the purpose of prayer it will be easy for you to pray without ceasing.

You will be motivated to pray daily. Unfortunately, we have been taught by the church that talking to God is the purpose for prayer. This statement is true yet, **INCOMPLETE**. Talking to God is a functionality of prayer. However, it is not the purpose.

The purpose of prayer is to receive a **DIVINE INSTRUCTION FROM THE HOLY SPIRIT**. Matthew 6:8 reminds us that God knows what we need before we ask. When people pray, they make the mistake in asking God for what they need rather than listening to His instructions. God **ALREADY** knows what you need. He does not need you to remind Him of what He already knows.

He needs you to **LISTEN** to His instructions. God wants to solve your problems. He wants to end your pain. He wants to bless you. However, if you are **UNWILLING** to

LISTEN to His instructions **YOU** will prevent Him from working in your life.

BE QUIET AND LISTEN

Talking during your prayer time is not a bad thing. It's not the most important thing. During your prayer time you should give thanks to God. You should ask Him to forgive you of your sins. You should express your concerns to Him. With all this being said, the most important thing to do while praying is **LISTENING** to the voice of the Holy Spirit.

When people pray, they are praying to receive a divine answer. They are praying to receive peace. They are praying for resources. These are wonderful prayer request. However, you cannot receive these request if you are doing **MORE** talking than listening. How can you learn how to be at peace if you are **NOT** listening to the Holy Spirit? How can you receive an answer to your problem if

you are complaining more than listening? How can you receive divine direction if you are talking excessively?

PRAYER IS NINETY-FIVE PERCENT
LISTENING AND FIVE PERCENT TALKING!

PRAYING 24/7

(1st Thessalonians 5:17)

The Bible commands us to pray without ceasing. We should always be in a position to **HEAR** from God. Unfortunately, many people do not understand this scripture.

Praying without ceasing does not mean verbally talking to God throughout the day. Praying without ceasing means to **LISTEN** to the Holy Spirit throughout the day. When a person prays without ceasing they are constantly responding to the Holy Spirit's voice. For example...

- If the Holy Spirit tells you to make a phone call to an individual you should stop doing what you are doing to make that phone call.
- If the Holy Spirit tells you to give someone a hug, you should stop what you are doing and give them a hug whether you understand it or not.

If you are a Kingdom citizen your ear should be sensitive to the voice of the Holy Spirit. God is always speaking! If you are not hearing the voice of the Holy Spirit during your prayer time, you are **NOT** praying effectively.

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DIVINE INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE HOLY
SPIRIT.

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