

BASIC



PRAYER
LIFE

BASIC PRAYER LIFE

INTRODUCTION

God has a wonderful purpose for your life. Success in life for every person, including you, will be determined by whether or not they fulfilled God's purpose. In order to find and fulfill God's purpose we must learn to how to have an effective prayer life, and live for Jesus every day. That is what this study is designed to help you do.

Each lesson has three parts: {1} the Scripture study, {2} Basic Questions, and {3} Scripture memory. The scripture study will teach you the truth of God's word. The basic questions will help you live the truth. The scripture memory will help you hide the truth in your heart.

In this study you will learn what prayer is, the types of prayers, how to be a prayer warrior, and practical points for maintaining an effective prayer life. Begin each lesson with prayer. Write the answers in your own words. Ask God to help you live what you learn. May God bless you as you study His Word.

NOTE: It is best to use the King James or New King James Bible when studying this booklet.

BASIC PRAYER LIFE

LESSON 1 WHAT IS PRAYER

SCRIPTURE STUDY: Answer each question using the scriptures given.

1. How do you enter God's presence in order to talk with Him? Psalms 100:4, 1 Timothy 2:8
2. What does praising God help us to do? Ephesians 5:18–20
3. What two ways do we pray? 1 Corinthians 14:15
4. How do we pray in the Spirit? Romans 8:26, 1 Corinthians 14:14
5. What does praying in the Spirit do? Jude 20
6. How do we pray with our understanding? Matthew 6:5–13
7. What are some of the things God tells us to pray for? Matthew 5:44, 9:38; Psalms 32:5–6, 122:6; James 1:5, 5:16; 1 Timothy 2:1–3
8. What are the main types of prayer? 1 Timothy 2:1
9. When should we pray? 1 Thessalonians 5:17, Luke 18:1
10. What do we need to add to our prayers in order to defeat the enemy sometimes? Matthew 17:21
11. If we are living for Jesus, what does He promise concerning our prayers? 1 John 3:22; 5:14
12. What can keep God from hearing our prayers? James 4:3, Psalms 66:18, 1 Peter 3:7, Mark 11:25–26

13. What must we do to get these hindrances removed? 1 John 1:9

BASIC QUESTIONS: To help you live what you studied.

1. Do you approach God with a thankful heart when you pray? Yes __ no __ If you have a problem in this area, sing praises to God as you begin your prayers.
2. Have you allowed God to fill you with His Spirit? Yes __ no __ If no, pray right now yielding your will to God and asking Him to fill you with His Spirit. Begin praising Him from your heart for doing it.
3. Do you build your faith by praying in the Spirit? Yes __ no __ If no, begin to do so right now.
4. Do you pray for the things God ask you to pray for using the pattern He gave? Yes __ no __ If no, begin today.
5. Is there anything in your life that would hinder God from hearing your prayers? Yes __ no __ If yes, repent of it right now.
6. Are you always ready to pray about the situations you meet in life? Yes __ no __ If no, begin right now by asking God to give you a spirit of prayer.
7. Do you ever fast when you are having a hard time gaining victory over a problem? Yes __ no __ If no, begin to do so today.

MEMORIZE: Hide God's word in your heart by memorizing 1 Timothy 2:8

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LESSON 2 *TYPES OF PRAYER*

SCRIPTURE STUDY: Answer each question using the scriptures given.

1. What are the four types of prayer mentioned in 1 Timothy 2:1?
2. How are these types of prayer part of our spiritual armor? Ephesians 6:18
3. According to Psalms 142:1–2 what is supplication?
4. According to Psalms 5:1–2 what is prayer?
5. According to Psalms 26:7 what is thanksgiving?
6. According to Ezekiel 22:30 what is intercession?
7. According to Matthew 26:41 & Philippians 4:6 what types of prayer should we use in dealing with the situations we face in our daily lives?
8. What does 1 Timothy 2:1–4 tell us about how these types of prayer affect the spread of the Gospel, and the conditions in the world around us?
9. In addition to individual prayer what did Jesus say we could do that controls the situations in the world around us? Matthew 18:18–20

BASIC QUESTIONS: To help you live what you studied.

1. Are you using all the types of prayer in your personal prayer life? Yes ___ no ___ If no, begin to do so today.
2. Do you seek to watchfully meet your daily situations with prayer the way the scriptures tell us to do? Yes ___ no ___ If no, ask God to help you begin to do it today.
3. Are you praying in agreement with others so that you are able to effectively bind and loose the things you pray for? yes ___ no ___ If no, begin to seek to do so today.

MEMORIZE: Hide God's word in your heart by memorizing 1 Timothy 2:1.

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LESSON 3 *SPIRITUAL WARFARE*

SCRIPTURE STUDY: Answer each question using the scriptures given.

1. What do the example of Moses in Exodus 32:30–35 & Deuteronomy 9:16–21; and the example of Paul in Acts 20:22–24; 21:10–13 & Romans 9:3; 10:1 show us about interceding for those bound by sin and self-righteousness?
2. What does the example of Esther and the Jews in Esther chapters 4; 5 & 9 tell us about how to intercede for the victory for God's people?
3. What does the example of the early church in Acts chapter 1; 2; 4; & 12 show us about the power of group prayer and intercession?
4. What does the example of Daniel in Daniel chapters 9 & 10 show us about intercession and the fulfilling of prophecy?
5. What does the example of Jesus in Mark 1:35 & Hebrews 5:7–8 show us about the importance of prayer in the lives of those involved in ministry?

BASIC QUESTIONS: To help you live what you studied.

1. Do you intercede regularly for the lost and those bound by religious tradition?
yes ___ no ___ If no, begin today using what you studied in the Word as a guide.
2. Do you intercede regularly for the members of your church, your pastor, and other Christians so that they will be able to walk in victory? yes ___ no ___ If no, begin today using what you studied in the Word as a guide.
3. Do you pray with other Christians so that the power of your agreement will help the spread of the Gospel and establish God's Kingdom on the earth? yes ___ no ___ If no, seek to do so today.
4. Do you pursue the things you feel God has told you will happen in prayer instead of just assuming God will do them without your help? yes ___ no ___ If no, begin today using what you studied in the Word as a guide.
5. Do you pursue the ministry God has given you through the power, anointing, and wisdom God gives you during your prayer time rather than your own strength and ability? yes ___ no ___ If no, begin today using what you studied in the Word as a guide.

MEMORIZE: Hide God's Word in your heart by memorizing Acts 4:31.

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LESSON 4 PRACTICAL PRAYER POINTS

1. Set aside specific times during the day for prayer and intercession and give them priority in your life.
2. Establish a place for prayer where you will not be disturbed; a closet, hidden place in the yard, cemetery, vacant lot, etc.
3. Keep a prayer journal (see appendix A) listing the things God told you to pray for by categories (lost people, church members, countries of the world, etc.). Also, keep track of when requests are made, answered, and any spiritually significant events that occur daily.
4. Study and seek the Lord about the people, places, and events He tells you to pray for so that you can know the specific request that you need to intercede for. Be specific in your prayers.
5. Set aside specific times when you get together with other Christians for prayer and intercession (at least weekly if possible). Developing neighborhood, school, and on the job prayer groups is one way to do this; in addition to your local church groups.
6. Stay faithful in prayer until the answer comes. George Mueller prayed 50 years for a man that was saved at his funeral.

BASIC QUESTIONS: To help you live what you studied.

1. Do you set aside specific times daily for prayer? Yes __ no __ If no, do it today.
2. Have you set aside a specific place to pray where you will not be disturbed?
yes __ no __ If no, do it today.
3. Do you keep a prayer journal? Yes __ no __ If no, do it today.
4. Have you studied and made a specific list of the prayer needs concerning the things God has burdened you to pray for? yes __ no __ If no, do it today.
5. Have you set aside time to pray regularly with other Christians? yes __ no __ If no, do it today.
6. Have you set your heart to stay faithful in your prayer life no matter what happens?
yes __ no __ If no, do it today.

MEMORIZE: Hide God's word in your heart by memorizing Romans 12:12.

APPENDIX A

GUIDELINES FOR MAINTAINING A PRAYER DIARY

1. **DAILY** enter the main thing you did that day plus any special things that happened especially those of Spiritual significance such as witnessing opportunities and answers to prayer. Write a brief description of people you met, decisions you made, ideas, thoughts, good & bad things that happened, & evaluate what you did. Write down how you could improve, and avoid mistakes.

EXAMPLE: JANUARY 3, 1992

Went to work. Shared Jesus with John whom I've been praying for. Prayed through my prayer list, & received understanding about end times from study of Matthew 24 (see study notes). Prayed for special financial need. (see prayer Journal)

2. **MAKE A PRAYER LIST** divided by categories of lost people, church members, political and spiritual leaders, missionaries, & special needs.

EXAMPLE :

LOST	CHURCH MEMBERS	LEADERS	MISSIONARY	SPECIAL NEEDS
J. DOE	Shirley Gayle	Pastor	(NAME OF	Missions Trip
		Pres. Bush	Missionary)	

3. **KEEP A PRAYER JOURNAL** of special request; enter the request, the date it was made, when it was answered, and how it was answered.

4. **KEEP A STUDY JOURNAL** of special things God shows you each day as you study His word.

EXAMPLE:

MATTHEW 24 JAN. 3, 92

verse 14 showed me how important it is to share Jesus .

verse 20 & 21 showed me how important prayer is.

verse 44 – 51 showed me how important it is for me to be doing what God has told me to do.

APPENDIX B

HEART SEARCHING FOR PRAYER PREPARATION AND PERSONAL REVIVAL

Psalms 139:23–24: "Search me, O God and know my heart, try me and know my thoughts and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting."

CONFESSION OF SIN IS NECESSARY FOR FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD AND REVIVAL AMONG GOD'S PEOPLE. Prayerfully consider the following questions. Go through the questions one by one. Answer each question truthfully. Every "Yes" answer means sin in your life.

IN READING THESE QUESTIONS, AS YOU ARE CONVICTED OF SIN, CONFESS IT AT ONCE TO GOD, BE WILLING TO MAKE IT RIGHT...THEN YOU CAN CLAIM CLEANSING AND FORGIVENESS. I John 1:9 "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

BE SURE TO NAME YOUR SIN TO GOD, AS.. "LORD, I HAVE NOT PUT YOU FIRST IN MY PLANS," OR "I HAVE NEGLECTED YOUR WORK AND PRAYER." DO NOT MAKE THE LEAST EXCUSE FOR SIN OF ANY KIND IN YOUR LIFE. Proverbs 28:13: "He that covers his sins shall not prosper but who confesses and forsakes them shall have mercy."

No matter what others do, or do not do, Christian, leave nothing undone on your part. God wants to work through you to bring about a great spiritual awakening. He can begin by you fulfilling every requirement shown by the Lord through the Holy Spirit and His Word. A revival from the presence of the Lord begins today, IF YOU DESIRE IT. Read the scriptures first, Ask the question, and give a truthful answer..."YES" or "NO".

1. Matthew 6:12–15: Is there anyone against whom you hold a grudge? Anyone you haven't forgiven? Anyone you hate? Anyone you do not love? Are there any misunderstandings that you are unwilling to forget? Is there any person against whom you are harboring bitterness, resentment, or jealousy? Anyone you dislike to hear praised or well spoken of? Do you allow anything to justify a wrong attitude toward another?
2. Matthew 6:33: Is there anything in which you have failed to put God first? Have your decisions been made after your own wisdom and desires rather than by seeking and following God's will? Do any of the following in any way interfere with your surrender and service to God: ambition, pleasures, loved ones, friendships, desire for recognition, money, your own plans?
3. Mark 1:17: Have you failed to seek the lost for Christ? Have you failed to witness consistently with your mouth for the Lord Jesus Christ? Has your life not shown the Lord Jesus to the lost?
4. John 13:35: Are you secretly pleased over the misfortunes of another? Are you secretly annoyed over the accomplishments or advancements of another? Are you guilty of any contention or strife? Do you quarrel, argue or engage in heated discussions? Are you a partner in any divisions, or party spirit? Are there people whom you deliberately slight?
5. Malachi 3:10: Have you robbed God by withholding His due of time, talents and money? Have you given less than a tenth of your income for God's work? Have you failed to support mission work either in prayer or in offerings?

6. 1 Corinthians 4:2: Are you undependable so that you cannot be trusted with responsibilities in the Lord's work? Are you allowing your emotions to be stirred for things of the Lord but doing nothing about it?
7. 1 Corinthians 6:12-20: Are you in any way careless with your body? Do you fail to care for it as the temple of the Holy Spirit? Are you guilty of intemperance in eating or drinking? Do you have any habits, which are defiling to the body?
8. 1 Corinthians 10:31: Do you take the slightest credit for anything good about you rather than give all the glory to God? Do you talk of what you have done rather than of what Christ has done? Are your statements mostly about "I"? Are your feelings easily hurt? Have you made a pretense of being something that you are not?
9. Ephesians 3:20: Are you self-conscious rather than Christ conscious? Do you allow feelings of inferiority to keep you from attempting things you should in serving the Lord?
10. Ephesians 4:28: Do you underpay? Do you do very little in your work? Have you been careless in the payment of your debts? Have you sought to evade payment of debts? Do you waste time of others?
11. Ephesians 4:31: Do you complain? Do you find fault? Do you have a critical attitude toward any person or thing? Are you irritable or cranky? Do you ever carry hidden anger? Do you get angry? Do you become impatient with others? Are you ever harsh or unkind?
12. Ephesians 5:20: Have you neglected to thank Him for all things, the seemingly bad as well as the good? Have you virtually called God a liar by doubting His Word? Do you worry? Is your spiritual temperature based on your feelings instead of on the facts of God's Word?
13. Ephesians 5:16: Do you listen to unedifying radio or TV programs? Do you read unworthy magazines? Do you partake in worldly amusements? Do you find it necessary to seek satisfaction from any questionable source? Are you doing certain things that show that you are not satisfied in the Lord Jesus Christ?
14. Philippians 1:21: Are you taken up with the cares of this life? Is your conversation for heart joy over "things" rather than the Lord and His Word? Does anything mean more to you than living for and pleasing Christ?
15. Philippians 2:14: Do you ever, by word or deed, seek to hurt someone? Do you ever gossip? Do you speak unkindly concerning people when they are not present? Do you carry prejudice against true Christians because they are of some different group than you are, or because they do not see everything exactly like you do?
16. Philippians 4:4: Have you neglected to seek to be pleasing to Him in all things? Do you carry any bitterness toward God? Have you complained against Him in any way? Have you been dissatisfied with His provision for you? Is there in your heart any unwillingness to obey God fully? Do you have any reservations as to what you would or would not do concerning anything that might be His will? Have you disobeyed some direct leading from Him?
17. Colossians 3:5-9: Do you engage in empty and unprofitable conversation? Do you ever lie? Do you ever exaggerate? Cheat? Steal? Carefully consider...Do you overcharge?
18. 2 Timothy 2:22: Do you have any personal habits that are not pure? Do you ever allow

impure thoughts about the opposite sex to stay in your mind? Do you read that which is impure or suggests unholy things? Do you indulge in any unclean entertainment? Are you guilty of the lustful look?

19. Hebrews 10:25: Do you stay away from meetings of the preaching of the gospel? Do you whisper, or think about other things while God's word is being read or preached? Are you irregular in attendance at services? Do you neglect to attend or participate in meetings of prayer? Have you neglected or slighted daily or private prayer? Have you neglected God's word? Do you find the Bible and prayer uninteresting? Have you neglected thanksgiving at meals? Have you neglected daily family devotions?

20. Hebrews 13:17: Do you hesitate to submit to leaders in the church or elsewhere? Are you lazy? Do you rebel at requests given you to help in the work of the Gospel? Do you in anyway have a stubborn or unteachable spirit?

21. James 1:27: Have you allowed yourself to become "spotted" by the world? Is your manner of dress pleasing to God? Do you spend beyond what is pleasing to God on anything? Do you neglect to pray about things that you buy?

22. James 4:6: Do you feel that you are doing quite well as a Christian? That you are not so bad? That you are good enough? Are you stubborn? Do you insist on having your own way? Do you insist on your "rights"?

23. James 4:11: Have you dishonored Him, and hindered His work by criticizing his servants? Have you failed to pray regularly for your pastor or other spiritual leaders? Do you find it hard to be corrected? Is there rebellion toward one who wants to restore you? Are you more concerned about what people will think than what will be pleasing to God?

IF YOU HAVE BEEN HONEST AND TRUE IN THE MATTER OF ADMITTING YOUR SINS, THEN YOU ARE READY FOR GOD'S CLEANSING. Sins that are admitted are sins that are confessed.

Remember these three things:

1. If the sin is against God, confess it to God and make things right with God.
2. If the sin is against another person, confess it to God then make things right with that person.
3. If the sin is against a group, confess it to God then make things right with the group.

IF THERE IS FULL CONFESSION, THERE WILL BE FULL CLEANSING: THE JOY OF THE LORD WILL COME, THEN THERE CAN BE TESTIMONY AND PRAYER IN THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, REVIVAL WILL FOLLOW.

Psalms 19:12; "Who can understand his errors? Cleanse thou me from secret faults."

THIS PRAYER LIST WAS GIVEN BY THE LORD JESUS, AS HE SPOKE TO THE SAINTS IN SHAN-TUNG CHINA, DURING THE 1930'S. AFTER OBEYING WHAT GOD GAVE; GREAT REVIVAL FOLLOWED; AS PEOPLE WERE SAVED, HEALED, DELIVERED, AND RAISED FROM THE DEAD.

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HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED WHAT PRAYER IS?
WOULD YOU LIKE TO KNOW THE TYPES OF PRAYER?
WOULD YOU LIKE TO KNOW HOW TO
BE A PRAYER WARRIOR?
WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE A CONSISTENT AND
EFFECTIVE PRAYER LIFE?
!!THEN THIS BOOK IS FOR YOU!!

Compiled by Bro. Henry Pulsifer

This is one of a series of studies designed to help you live a successful, victorious, life. Bro. Henry has experienced the victory that comes from living for Jesus for over 50 years; including God's healing from Cancer as he walked with the cross. Since his healing he has traveled the world sharing Jesus and helping others learn how to find victory and success by living for Jesus, and fulfilling God's purpose for their life.

Out of this experience he has compiled several foundational studies, which enable people to understand and live the BASIC Bible principles for success and victory in life. This particular study is designed to help you find success and victory in your personal life by having an effective prayer life. It can also be used to help you teach others, and is appropriate for individual or group study.

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