

ABOUT PRAYER

Kennedy opens in prayer and shares a short message about how the devil had been attacking her by trying to scare her with the grim reaper in her bathroom one night. Also at that time of her life God would show her beautiful things that she could see. The devil tried to show her some things too but she could tell that the way he was coloring the open visions that it was not from God. She said God's coloring is way more beautiful.

Let's discuss prayer and praying. This is a neglected subject and many don't like to speak on it. Usually it is passed off as oh come on, everyone knows how to do this. Did you know that I have met people that have said they do not know how to pray. We cannot assume that everyone knows all about things like this.

Why should we pray at all? If you don't pray you are going to hell for eternity. You have to know Jesus as your Savior at least to get into heaven. For example if you are on your death bed and you call out to Jesus asking for forgiveness and you mean it with your whole heart, you will be saved. (Romans 10:13)

But remember John 3:16 says you must BELIEVE (trust) in Him. If in any other situation, then the prayer of salvation is the first step.

John 3:16 - For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

After that prayer, He expects you to stay in an intimate relationship with Him. Pray every day, read your Word, really get to know Him and give your life to Him. Imagine yourself kneeling down before Him now, and asking Him what He created you for and to use you for His glory and honor.

People think God hears their prayers even if they are living in sin and not repenting. That is a lie.

Isaiah 66:18 - If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me:

Isaiah 59:1-2 - BEHOLD, the LORD's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save, neither His ear heavy, that it cannot hear: But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid His face from you, that He will not hear.

John 9:31 - Now we know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshipper of God, and does His will, Him he hears.

God will hear a sinners prayer when he cries out for repentance, but to stay in sin and think He hears you, you are deceiving yourself.

I Peter 3:12 – For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and His ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil.

You can pray anytime, anywhere kneeling, standing, laying down the position doesn't matter. Reverencing and having holy fear of Him.

Speaking your prayers is the most powerful way to pray.

Luke 11:2 – (Jesus said) When you pray say...

Mark 11:23 – For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be removed, and be cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he says shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he says.

Psalms 107:2 - Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, whom He hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy;

Remember in Genesis God created everything by His spoken Word. He did not "think" the world into existence. He boldly spoke all things out. His Word is power! You want to pray His Word as much as possible. For He is true to His Word and He keeps His promises.

Psalms 100:4 – Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise: be thankful unto Him, and bless His name.

He inhabits our praises.

Matt.6:5-13 – And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites *are*: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly. But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen *do*: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking. Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him.

Matt.6:9-13 - After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

John 14:14 - If you shall ask anything in My name, I will do it.

Luke 22:42 – Saying, Father, if Thou be willing, remove this cup from Me: nevertheless not My will, but Thine, be done. The end result will be the Father’s will. It is always best. His answers are yes and no.

Sometimes we are not sure of His answer because all things are done in His time, on His schedule, and not ours.

Jeremiah 29:11 – For I know the thoughts that I think toward you , says the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end. (hope in your latter end)

James 4:3 - Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume *it* upon your lusts.

I Thessalonians 5:17 – Pray without ceasing.

James 1:5-8 – doubt If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all *men* liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord. A double minded man *is* unstable in all his ways.

How often should I pray? The more you pray, the closer God draws to you.

Psalms 55:17 - King David – Evening, and morning, and at noon, will I pray, and cry aloud: and He shall hear my voice.

Dan.6:10 - Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house; and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime.

I Timothy 2:8 - I will therefore that men pray every where, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting.

Prayer is an offering to God:

Psalms 119:108 – Accept, I beseech Thee, the freewill offerings of my mouth, O LORD, and teach me Thy judgments.

Jesus prayed for us:

John 17:20 - Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on Me through their word;

& He still prays for us:

Romans 8:34 - Who *is* he that condemneth? *It is* Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.

A few words on praying in the Spirit (or in tongues) and the Holy Spirit praying for us:

Romans 8:26 – Likewise the Spirit also helps our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself makes intercession for us with groaning which cannot be uttered.

You should not think that someone else has a better “connection” to God through prayer than you do. You need to stay focused on your walk with God and be sure you know Jesus intimately. There is power in numbers praying in agreement. A pastor praying for you or with you is like icing on the cake but is not to be your only hope. You are to know the Lord intimately for yourself.

Matt: 21:22 - And all things, whatsoever you shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive. Now after you pray don't turn around and cut the prayer off by saying I don't know...or probably not...or nothing is happening...I don't know if I'll get it...all of those things are negative and showing doubt. God wants you to believe.

You cannot pray for dead people and certainly do not pray TO them either.

Don't pray curses over people or yourself. Example, I wish she wasn't with him. I wish he didn't work there. I pray that she'd find someone better, etc.

Prayers don't have to be long. Remember Peter who started to sink in the water and cried out, “Lord, save me.”

I Tim.5:5 – Now she that is a widow indeed, and desolate, trusteth in God, and continueth in supplications and prayers night and day. Totally dependent on God – like the people we work with in Africa. They draw so close to Him and they see big moves of God.

Supplications: a wanting, a need which should lead to an asking, entreaty

MIDNIGHT:

Psalms 63:1 - King David – O GOD, Thou art my God; early will I seek You: my soul thirsteth for You, my flesh longs for You in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is;

Psalms 5:3 - My voice shalt You hear in the morning, O LORD; in the morning will I direct my prayer unto You, and will look up.

Isaiah 26:9 - With my soul have I desired You in the night; yes, with my Spirit within me will I seek You early: for when Your judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness.

PRAYER