

New Believer Lesson- Getting to Know God Better

One of the most important things that God wants you to do today is to grow in your knowledge of him.

When a Christian couple gets married they wish to build a relationship and grow together in various skills daily.

Many of those skills include communication, love, and a stronger spiritual base.

As we grow in our relationship with God we need to have the same skills as this, to understand that we are a real relationship with a real living God.

Therefore we must:

Communicate with God as we would a person! True Communication is a two-way street. But with God our communication is different because it's done through prayer. (This is really talking to God).

- A. First we must learn to listen before we can effectively ask. Learning to listen to God is done when we learn to quiet ourselves and listen to him speak when we are in his presence.
- B. It takes time to learn how God speaks to us and most often when he does he speaks to our hearts.
- C. Prayer is the one of the main ways we can communicate with God. We must practice prayer regularly to develop that two sided communication, God wants.

R.A Torrey said- "**We must let the words of Christ live in us and they will stir us up to prayer.**"

Regular times of Bible intake help us learn and apply God's Word. It also should be a daily discipline so we can grow properly.

-communication in prayer also develops long term dependence on God. Prayer is a lifelong practice and is vital to all growth and application of his Word.

How does God speak to us?

Often times we must be careful not to neglect our relationship with God in prayer. Here is how we can learn to strengthen our prayer lives:

1. **Bible intake**- reading the bible as indicated in our lesson -**Learning the Books of the Bible** is vital to our growth- we live and grow in and through our Bible intake.
2. **We are commanded to hear the Word of God preached**- **Romans 10:14-15** and in **Matt. 28** to practice it- **Isaiah 52:7** says "how can we call on one we have not heard about"...
3. **Bible Intake also must be done on a personal level**
-The word speaks to our hearts when we sit in his presence, listen to his voice! If we form a discipline of meditating on the Word the Holy Spirit brings what we have memorized back to our minds in a moment we need it most.

-R.A Torrey said this-"If we seek to feed the fire of our prayers with the fuel of God's word all our difficulties in prayer would disappear

- Pray is vital to this partnership- having the word and prayer together gives us a balanced diet of Spiritual foods that the Father prepared for us to keep connected to him and learn his ways.

-Finally we must be vigilant to listen to our peers. God often speaks to us through:

1. Other Christians in the body of Christ
2. Our Pastors and leaders- this may be the main way and too often is and should not be the only way
3. Friends and saved and unsaved family- (parents)
4. Sometimes God places small impressions in our spirit in response to what we have learned or read

Remember- the Word of God is the instrument through which the Holy Spirit works

It can be difficult to grasp this truth early in your walk with God. But in time and with growth it becomes more understandable and discernible

Impressionism can also be a deceptive thing to follow if we are not careful. So be careful to guard against emotionalism that can rule our feelings which can lead us into emotional ideas not from God.

The Word- the Holy Spirit can bring victory in a battle's we face when the word of God is firmly planted in our hearts because victory comes through obedience.

What Prayer does:

1. Prayer can keep us on the straight and narrow road God has intended for us
as we pray, God the Holy Spirit Convicts us of sin so that we continue doing what is right
2. Prayer can calm our fears and anxieties (**Phil 4:6**) **Psalm 94:19** verses that deal with anxiety
3. Prayer gives us assurance of our spiritual life and our salvation.
4. It grants us peace in the midst of storms and in our decision making as to whether they are from God
John 14:27, Phil 4:7 and I Thess. 5:23-4
5. Prayer is the end of the means to all application of the Word of God done by the Holy Spirit- **John 14:26**
6. It is the main means by which you grow with God and learn to walk confidently with him.

Do you want to know what lies ahead, Pray and you will see His truth more clearly and you will learn to trust more readily and learn a dependence on God for all eternity!

Prayer is- talking to God, listening to God and obeying God. Start by saying :

Lord here I am I need to learn to pray - help me learn and grow, BOOM you are praying...

A simple example:

"Lord I am in need of more of you I know that you're there and you Love me because it says that in the Gospel I read in the Book of John. So please help me love myself and others and be happy today and safe.

I'm poor and need a job but Lord I believe that you can provide you are so real and I need you now...!!! "

Questions:

1. To whom should our prayers to be directed? **Matthew 6:9**
The term "Our Father" mentioned in these verses simple speak the Lords name that must be honored in all we do and ask.
2. If we pray for God's forgiveness, what must we do first? **Matthew 6:12**
- This forgiveness is for our daily sins, but without confessing our sins our communication with God is broken!
3. What should we constantly ask God to keep us from? **Matthew 6:13**- There is an evil one!
4. What is necessary for a successful prayer life? **Mark 11:22-24**
Mark here teaches us that faith exercised in God can do what's humanly impossible!!!

Note: God the Father answers prayer that God the Holy Spirit Inspires

Remember: hiding the word in our hearts brings power in prayer and we need it because our spiritual life is constantly being challenged.

5. How can we be sure that God will hear and answer our prayers? **1 John 3:21-22**
6. How does God make our paths straight? **Proverbs 3:5-67.**
7. What happens to the man or a woman that trusts in the Lord? **Psalms 37:1-10**