



Why Do We Pray?
3rd in the Draw Near Series
Ephesians 6:18-20
November 16, 2025
Pastor Mickey Klink

Introduction: In this message, we learn why Christians do pray – why we should, even must pray!

- 1) The Bible teaches to pray for a multitude of things and circumstances in a multitude of ways.

Ephesians 6:18 – *And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests.*

- 2) There are at least 10 reasons why Christians pray:

- (1) Psalm 145:18 – *The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.*
[Prayer draws you close to God and allows you to experience intimacy with him.]
- (2) Matthew 6:10 – *your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.*
[Prayer forms your will and aligns it to God's will.]
- (3) Mark 11:24 – *Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.*
[Prayer strengthens your faith and supports your dependence on God.]
- (4) Philippians 4:6-7 – *Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*
[Prayer calms your worries and anxieties and helps establish you in God's peace.]
- (5) Matthew 26:41 – *“Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.”*
[Prayer helps you resist temptation.]
- (6) 1 Timothy 2:1-4 – *I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people—or kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.*
[Prayer is a primary way you love our neighbors and evangelize.]
- (7) Psalm 50:15 – *Call on me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you will honor me.*
[Prayer glorifies God.]
- (8) James 1:5 – *If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.*
[Prayer is how you seek God's wisdom and guidance.]
- (9) James 5:14-16 – *Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven. Therefore, confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.*
[Prayer brings physical and spiritual healing and interpersonal reconciliation.]
- (10) Colossians 4:2 – *Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.*
[Prayer is a command and is a primary means of your spiritual growth.]

Response

Hope Church, let us pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests.

Sunday Text Questions

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Read the text aloud and discuss any significant observations or issues that need clarification together.

- 1) What do you experience when you pray, whether in a group or alone, and in what ways does it connect you with God?
- 2) Paul commands Christians to pray “in the Spirit” (Eph 6:18). How does a Christian do that, and what does it look like in practice?
- 3) Paul also commands Christians to pray “on all occasions” (v. 18). What are the traditional or normal occasions on which Christians pray, and what are other occasions where we should also include prayer?
- 4) A. W. Pink said, “Prayer is not designed for the furnishing of God with the knowledge of what we need, but it is designed as a confession to Him of our sense of need.” How does this explanation help you see your need for prayer and the usefulness of prayer?
- 5) Read the list of 10 reasons why Christian prayer in the sermon notes. Which one encouraged you the most, and which one is a helpful reason that you had not really considered before?
- 6) Exercise #1: Read Philippians 4:6-7, share together anything that is causing you anxiety or worry, and spend time presenting the situation to the Lord in prayer, asking for his provision of peace.
- 7) Exercise #2: Read 1 Timothy 2:1-4, share together any specific people (even if anonymous) who you desire to know Christ, and spend time praying to the Lord for their salvation.

Further study this week: Passages related to the message of this week’s text: Psalm 145:18 (Mon); Mark 11:24 (Tues); Matthew 26:41 (Wed); Psalm 50:15 (Thurs); Colossians 4:2 (Fri).