

## Effective Prayer

### Part 4

#### **Matthew 6:9**

God's Word needs to be our foundation for Prayer

You have to acknowledge God a Lord over everything

#### **John 15:7**

His Word needs to be established in your heart so that when distractions and temptations come your way you have the ability to overcome them.

If you are not grounded in the Word – distractions can hinder you from hearing from God.

Distractions can be anything from things popping up during the day that you hadn't counted on, family issues, relationship troubles, sickness, concerns for your children, time pressured needs (something you have to know RIGHT NOW), etc.

They will cause you to use your emotions or flesh to work things out instead of listening to God for the solution.

When these distractions dictate your thoughts, words and actions – you have made them lord over you.

It's important that you not allow yourself to get in a position where other things become lord over your life. When you do this you have given control of the situation over to someone or something other than God and you will not have a good outcome.

A good illustration of this is in **Proverbs 22:7**

Remember **Proverbs 3:5-6**?

When you take control of things, leaning on your own understanding of a situation, you are literally saying that you don't trust God to lead you and guide you.

Your path will be dark and difficult until you start acknowledging God in ALL of your ways.

So often people tell God in their "prayers" what they want and how they want thing done, but never take the time to ask God what He wants.

People put their trust in certain foods or doctors for their health, or a particular job to meet their needs rather than trust God for their health, finances, relationships, etc.

Prayer literally becomes many people's last resort. And that is a sad thing especially when God has the solution for their every need.

Prayer is important in your relationship with the Lord. You can talk to Him about things in your life and ask Him for wisdom and direction. Then you listen. Once you get a solution - you obey.

When you listen and obey – it will always bring peace in your life. You realize that you don't have to fret over things because God has it all under control.

### **Psalm 23:1-3**

God wants the best for you. And you will experience the kind of life described in this Psalm when you are in line with His Word.

When you really read Psalm 23, it is not about death, although it is read at many funerals. It is about Life and an Abundant Life at that!

### **Matthew 6:11**

You need wisdom to live in this world and God provides that wisdom to overcome and to live like heaven on earth in the midst of the chaos.

In this verse, Bread refers to the wisdom of God.

**Matthew 4:4** Jesus proclaimed that we cannot live without His wisdom.

Here is a practical way to apply the Word to your prayers using these verses:

Today Lord, I ask You for what I need to live my life for You and to have an answer for every situation I will face today. I also ask You for the solution for someone else's problem today. Help me to be a blessing today Father. In Jesus Name, Amen.

## Scripture References

**Matthew 6:9** After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.

**John 15:7** If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

**Proverbs 22:7** The rich ruleth over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender.

**Proverbs 3:5-6** Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.  
<sup>6</sup>In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

**Psalm 23:1-3** The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

<sup>2</sup>He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

<sup>3</sup>He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

**Matthew 6:11** Give us this day our daily bread.

**Matthew 4:4** But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.