



Central Idea

True excellence in prayer is not measured by public recognition but by a sincere, private relationship with God in which the believer consistently seeks the Father with humility, faith, and obedience.

INTRODUCTION

- Prayer is one of the greatest privileges given to the Christian.
- Through prayer we approach and communicated with the Creator of heaven and earth.
- Jesus taught that the quality of our prayer life matters more than the visibility of it.
- Jesus warned against praying merely to be seen by others.
- Excellence in prayer is cultivated not on the stage of public attention.

James 5:16 ESV

Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.

- [1 Thessalonians 5:17](#) – “Pray without ceasing.”
- A life of prayer is not occasional—it is foundational to spiritual excellence.

I. EXCELLENCE IN PRAYER REQUIRES SINCERITY BEFORE GOD

John 4:24 God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.”

- Jesus condemned hypocritical prayer that was designed to impress people rather than honor God. The Father desires sincerity rather than performance.
- Prayer must come from a heart that is: honest, humble, and focused on God rather than human approval

Hebrews 4:15–16 ESV

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Practical Acts of Faith

- Set aside private time daily to pray without distractions.
- Speak honestly to God about struggles, fears, and gratitude.
- Begin prayers with thanks rather than personal requests.

II. EXCELLENCE IN PRAYER REQUIRES CONSISTENT DEVOTION

Luke 18:1 ESV

And he told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart.

- Prayer is not meant to be occasional; it is meant to be a lifestyle.
- Consistency with habitual prayer deepens our relationship with God.

Mark 1:35 ESV

And rising very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he departed and went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed.

Colossians 4:2 ESV

Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving.

Practical Acts of Faith

- Establish a daily prayer schedule (morning, midday, evening).
- Dedicate moments throughout the day to brief prayers of thanksgiving.

III. EXCELLENCE IN PRAYER PRODUCES SPIRITUAL TRANSFORMATION

Philippians 4:6–7 ESV

do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

- Prayer does not simply change circumstances—it changes the believer.
- When we consistently seek the Father, our hearts are transformed.

1 John 5:14 And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us.

Romans 12:12 Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.

- The believer who prays privately develops a stronger public faith.

Practical Acts of Faith

- Pray before major decisions and seek God's guidance.
- When anxiety arises, immediately turn to prayer instead of worry.
- Pray for others—family, church leaders, those in need, and those in authority

CONCLUSION

- Jesus taught that the most powerful prayers are often the ones no one else hears.
- When believers seek the Father in secret, God sees their sincerity and promises reward. Excellence in prayer is cultivated through sincerity, consistency, and spiritual transformation.
- When we commit ourselves to private communion with God, our public faith becomes stronger, our hearts grow closer to Him, and our lives begin to reflect His will.

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“The churches of Christ greet you”
Rom. 16:16

Hebrews 4:12

THE HOLY BIBLE

2 Tim. 2:15, 3:16-17

HEAR
Rom. 10:17

BELIEVE
Jn. 3:16

REPENT
Lk. 13:3

CONFESS
Rom. 10:9

IMMERSED/ADDED
Acts 2:36-47, 22:16
FORGIVEN/SAVED

FAITHFUL
Rev. 2:10
Remain Saved
Till the end
Phil. 2:12

“See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be immersed?”
Acts 8:36
“water immersion now saves us by the resurrection of Jesus Christ.” 1 Pt. 3:21

How Jesus commands us to be forgiven of sins and added to His kingdom.