



Why don't people pray?

- 1) A lot of us aren't sure _____ to pray
- 2) A lot of us get _____ or _____ while trying to pray
- 3) A lot of us aren't sure _____ to pray for
- 4) A lot of us aren't sure if our prayers make a _____

“A lot of us go through life truly believing in God, but having a half-hearted or sometimes almost non-existent prayer life.”

Craig Groeschel

What is prayer?

Prayer is simply _____ with God

“O LORD, hear me as I pray; pay attention to my groaning. Listen to my cry for help, my King and my God, for I pray to no one but you. Listen to my voice in the morning, LORD. Each morning I bring my requests to you and wait expectantly.”* Psalm 5:1-3 [NLT]

*NKJV = “meditation” **NIV = “lament”

*NRSV = “sighing”

God wants us to talk with Him

- 1) With gut-level _____

“When you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by others... And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words.” Mat. 6:5, 7 [NLT]

“The LORD is close to all who call on him.” Ps. 145:18 [NLT]

- 2) About _____ that matters to us

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.” Phil. 4:6 [NLT]

“If it matters to you, it matters to God!”

“Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you.” 1 Pet. 5:7 [NLT]

- 3) _____

“Always be joyful. Never stop praying. Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.” 1 Thess. 5:16-18 [NLT]

P _____ **U** _____ **S** _____ **H** _____

“The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results.” Jas. 5:16 [NLT]

- 4) And _____ for His response

“And the LORD came and called as before, ‘Samuel! Samuel!’ And Samuel replied, ‘Speak, your servant is listening.’” 1 Sam. 3:10 [NLT]

“God not only wants to hear us, but He wants us to hear Him.”

God may speak through...

- Through His Word
- Through His Spirit
- Through your circumstances
- Through His people
- Audibly
- Visually

“My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.” John 10:27 [NLT]



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