**WHAT YOU NEEDTO KNOW ABOUT PRAYER**

40 Days of Prayer – Part 2

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**Scripture Reading**

**Matthew 6:9-13**

**Luke 11:1 (NIV)**   
One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples."

Our frustrations with prayer are caused by: **Feeling Inadequate About Praying**

* **Not a magic wand**
* **Not a fire extinguisher**
* **Not a tug of war**
* **Not a ritual to relieve guilt**

**4 Foundational Truths About Prayer:**

1. **God Loves For Me To Talk To Him**

**Psalm 103:13 (NLT2)**   
The LORD is like a father to his children, tender and compassionate to those who fear him.

**1 John 5:14-15 (TLB)**   
And we are sure of this, that he will listen to us whenever we ask him for anything in line with his will. And if we really know he is listening when we talk to him and make our requests, then we can be sure that he will answer us.

**PRAYER IS:**

**Jeremiah 29:11-12 (NCV)**   
“I have good plans for you, not plans to hurt you. I will give you hope and a good future. Then you will call my name. You will come to me and pray to me, and I will listen to you.

1. **God Listens To Prayers That Are Sincere And Simple**

**Matthew 6:5-8 (NIV)**   
"And 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 men. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full. But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

**Hebrews 10:22 (NCV)**   
let us come near to God with a sincere heart and a sure faith…

1. **God Likes To Show His Grace By Answering Prayer**

**Jeremiah 33:3 (MSG)**   
'Call to me and I will answer you. I'll tell you marvelous and wondrous things that you could never figure out on your own.'

**Matthew 7:11 (NLT2)**   
So if you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give good gifts to those who ask him.

**James 4:2 (NIV)**   
…You do not have, because you do not ask God.

1. **God Longs To Be Close To You**

**Isaiah 30:18 (NLT2)**   
So the LORD must wait for you to come to him so he can show you his love and compassion…

**Hosea 6:6 (TLB)**   
"I don’t want your sacrifices—I want your love; I don’t want your offerings—I want you to know me.

**Psalm 25:14 (NLT2)**   
The LORD is a friend to those who fear him. He teaches them his covenant.

**James 4:8 (HCSB)**   
Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you…

The Closer I Am To God **The Less Stressed And More Blessed I Will Be!!**