

Outline #10 The Holy Spirit, the Word, and Prayer

Scripture Song: The Fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22–23)

1. Prayer that is pleasing to God

- a) Not all prayer is pleasing to God
 - i) Matthew 6:5–7
 - ii) Luke 18:11–12. What wrong with this prayer?
- b) It is appropriate to learn how to pray
 - i) Luke 11:1–4
- c) Prayer is a natural response when we abide in Christ
 - i) John 14:12–14
 - ii) John 15:7
- d) Pray in Jesus' name
 - i) John 14:13–14; 2 Corinthians 1:20
 - ii) 1 John 5:14–15
- e) The Holy Spirit will help us with our prayers
 - i) Romans 8:26
 - ii) Ephesians 6:18
 - iii) Jude 20–21
 - iv) Share a time when sensed the enabling presence of the Holy Spirit as you prayed in Jesus' name.
- f) "Prayer is the opening of the heart to God as to a friend, not that it is necessary in order to make known to God what we are, but in order to enable us to receive Him. Prayer does not bring God down to us, but brings us up to Him." Steps to Christ, 93.

2. The foundations of Biblical prayer

- a) PRAISE: Begin and end not with asking, but praising
 - i) Psalm 100:4

- ii) Psalm 92:1–2
- iii) Matthew 6:9, 13b (missing in some versions)
- iv) How much time should we spend praising God in our prayers?
- b) CONFESSION
 - i) Confess your sin
 - (1) Matthew 6:12
 - (2) Psalm 51:1–4, 10
 - ii) Confess faith in Jesus and surrender to His will
 - (1) Romans 10:9,13; Hebrews 11:6
 - (2) Matthew 6:10
- c) PETITION
 - i) Matthew 7:7–11, claim promises of God
 - ii) Luke 11:13, a most important request
 - iii) Matthew 6:10,13, examples.
 - iv) Mark 11:24, ask and believe. We believe we will receive because we believe in Jesus and are surrendered to His will.
 - v) Why is it important to ask in faith? James 1:6–8
 - vi) What if our prayers are not answered in the way we would prefer? Luke 22:42; Colossians 4:2
- d) THANKSGIVING
 - i) Why is it good to conclude with thanksgiving rather than more petitions? John 11:41

