

Learning to Pray

Teach Us To Pray – Part 1
July 15, 2018 – Allan Hamblin

“Now Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, **teach us to pray**, as John taught his disciples.”

Luke 11:1 (ESV)

Q: Why did the disciples ask Jesus to teach them to pray?

Why must we LEARN to pray?

1) Because we're not naturally good at it.

“for we do not know how to pray as we should...”

Rom. 8:26b (NASB)



([SEE VIDEO AT GREATERALTONCHURCH.ORG/SERMONS](http://SEEVIDEOATGREATERALTONCHURCH.ORG/SERMONS))

2) Because prayer is how we access God's power.

“Truly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, ‘Be taken up and thrown into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says will come to pass, it will be done for him. ²⁴ Therefore I tell you, **whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.**”

Mark 11:23-24 (ESV)

“...The prayer of a righteous person **has great power as it is working.** ¹⁷ Elijah was a man **with a nature like ours**, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months **it did not rain on the earth.** ¹⁸ Then **he prayed again, and heaven gave rain, and the earth bore its fruit.**”

James 5:16-18 (ESV)

“And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that **if we ask anything according to his will he hears us.** ¹⁵ And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, **we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him.**”

1John 5:14-15 (ESV)

3) Because God is waiting for us to ask Him to act.

“Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; **and greater works than these will he do**, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ **If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.**”

John 14:12-14 (ESV)

God has always chosen
to work through people.

Then God said, “Let us **make man in our image**, after our likeness. And **let them have dominion** over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” ... ²⁸ And God blessed them. And God said to them, “**Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion** over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”

Gen. 1:26, 28 (ESV)

“Again I say to you, **if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven.** ²⁰ For where **two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.**”

Matt. 18:19-20 (ESV)