

**Biblical Prayer**  
**Enjoying the Power and Confidence of Scripture-Centered Prayer**

*“God's divine power has given us everything we need for life and for godliness. This power was given to us through knowledge of the one who called us by his own glory and integrity. Through his glory and integrity he has given us his promises that are of the highest value. Through these promises you will share in the divine nature because you have escaped the corruption that sinful desires cause in the world.” 2 Peter 1:3-4 NASB*

**1. Relationship:** We enjoy privilege of prayer because of our relationship with Christ. John 1:12-13

*“As many as received Him, to them He gave the **right to become children of God**, to those **who believe in His name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.** John 1:12-13*

**a. God loves to hear your voice. God can tell your voice** from the voice of others! Hebrews 13:15

Which precious promises are you grateful for? Praise God for His promises and privilege of being His child.

Lord, I praise you for: \_\_\_\_\_

**2. God’s will is in His Word** *“Your word, LORD, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens.” Ps 119:89*

**3. We pray according to the promises in God’s Word. God fulfills the promises in His Word!**

*Psalm 119: 1-2, 9-11, 89-90; 2 Timothy 3:16, Hebrews 4:12, Matthew 7:7, James 4:2, Isaiah 55:10-11*

**4. “It is written...” - Jesus’s example when tempted in the wilderness**

Luke 4:4 *“ ‘Man shall not live by bread alone.’ ”* From Deut. 8:3

Luke 4:8 *“ ‘You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve.’ ”* From Deut. 6:13

Luke 4:12 *“It is said, ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’ ”* From Deut. 6:16

**5. Kinds of Prayer**

▶ **Praise:** Praise for who God is and thanksgiving for what He has done.

▶ **Intercession:** Praying according to God’s will. Prayers that “hit the mark” with God.

▶ **Petitions:** Petitions based on deep sense of spiritual need, specific needs directed toward God.

▶ **Thanksgiving:** Gratitude for blessings or benefits, praying with a thankful heart.

▶ **Repentance:** to change your mind for the better.

▶ **Confession:** To agree with God.

**6. Praying Through the Bible – Read and Pray Through Scripture (Praise, Repent, Intercede)**

**Pass 1: Praise:** Turn to a scripture passage: **Ephesians 2:4-10**. Review passage as if doing a Bible study.

**Observe truths worthy of giving praise to God. Praise God for the truths you find in His Word.**

**Pass 2: Repentance:** Based on the truths you find, **repent of where you have fallen short of God’s will.**

**Pass 3: Intercession:** Pray that God would help me to live out the truths that I find in His word.

**Ephesians 2:4-10**

I praise God for: \_\_\_\_\_

I repent that I am not living up to: \_\_\_\_\_

I am asking the Lord to help me be better at: \_\_\_\_\_

*“Praying the scriptures give us the right vocabulary for prayer” Pastor Daniel Henderson*

© Thomas Bush, Prayer Assist, <https://prayerassist.org/>, [Thomas.bush.sd@gmail.com](mailto:Thomas.bush.sd@gmail.com), (619) 742-8694

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Why "Pray the Bible"? from Matthew Henry's A Method for Prayer  
 From: <https://www.matthewhenry.org/about/why-read-the-method-for-prayer/>

1 Praying scripturally will <b>teach us what prayer is</b> , even while we do it.	8 It will show us the <b>proper way to approach God in prayer</b> .
2 It will <b>correct "shopping list" views of prayer</b> , which abound in the Christian community.	9 It will remind us of the <b>good things that God does</b> for us [which we sometimes take for granted]
3 It will begin to <b>solve in our own minds the question of "unanswered prayer."</b>	10 It will remind us to <b>always give thanks to God</b>
4 It will <b>remind us of just how much there is to pray</b> about day by day.	11 It will begin to engrave in our minds <b>biblical patterns of thought</b> , which can help immunize us from the enticing folly of the world's view of life.
5 It will teach us the extreme <b>urgency of prayer</b> .	12 It will force us <b>to rehearse the solemn warnings and precious promises</b> of God
6 It will return proportion to prayers <b>long on petition, but short on adoration, confession, and thanksgiving</b> .	13 It will move us from our <b>inherent man-centeredness in prayer to a biblical, God-centered</b> way of praying.
7 It will instruct us <b>how best to pray for ministers, missionaries, and one another</b> .	

**God-Centered Prayer vs Needs or Request-Based Prayer**

1. Seeking God's **face** rather than seeking God's **hand**. *Psalm. 27:4, 8, 105:4; 2 Cor 3:18, Hebrews 11:6*

*In order to have a right view of prayer, we must have a right view of God.*

**God-Centered prayer**

Focuses on God, He is the only one worthy to receive glory, honor, and power. (*Rev. 4:11*)  
 Is something that all believers must do.

When we worship, we encounter God and He reveals our true need. We can then bring our true need to Him.

**Need or Request-Based prayer**

Focuses on self or the current need. Can become self-centered or need-centered

Can teach people that they only need to come to God when they have a need or request.

If we bring a need to God without encountering God first, we may miss God, not know our true need and/or not have our need met.

**God-Centered vs Self-Centered Prayer Format**

Use scripture/testimony/music to focus on God's nature, desires, perspective, activity, purposes, attributes, intentions or promises.

Rather than allowing people's fears, needs, misconceptions, agendas, self-centered desires, personal ambition, distractions, etc. to prevail.

**Prayer-Focused Scripture Passages**

I John 5:14-15	Ask, according to His <b><u>will</u></b> .	Ephesians 6:18	Pray <b><u>at all times</u></b> , with <u>all prayer</u>
John 14:13-14	Ask in His <b><u>name</u></b>	Luke 18:1	Pray <b><u>always</u></b> , don't give up
John 15:7	Ask, according to His <b><u>Word</u></b>	Matthew 7:7	<b><u>Ask</u></b> /given, <b><u>seek</u></b> /find, <b><u>knock</u></b> /open