

Randi Talk
November 7
Session 7

Prayer and Communication

Look at prayer by answering the questions:

- What?
- Where?
- When?
- How?

What is prayer?

- Prayer is simply **talking to God**. It is part of growing our relationship with God.
 - How do you build a relationship with God?
 - By getting to know Him better.
 - And how do you get to know Him better?
 - Spending time with Him.
 - And how do you spend time with Him.
 - Read the word,
 - talk to Him (pray),
 - read books about Him.
 - Listen to podcasts about Him.
 - Be around people who love Him, too.

If you love someone, you want to talk with him/her often. You want to be in constant communication with them. It is the same with God. He loves you and He wants to be in a relationship with you.

You are His child!!!!

Where do we pray?

Everywhere and anywhere. Sometimes alone and sometimes with others.

When do we pray?

All the time. Pray without ceasing. When I get up, all throughout my day, and when I lie down at night. And for some of us, in the middle of the night when we can't sleep.

How do we pray?

- In all kinds of ways.
 - Conversational.
 - Using the Psalms.
 - The Lord's prayer.

Randi Talk
November 7
Session 7

Some people like to use an acrostic:

Adoration
Confession
Thanksgiving
Supplication

OR

Praise
Repent
Ask
Yield

Tara Leigh reminds us that in Scripture the normative way to pray is:
to the Father, through the Son, by the Holy Spirit.

The Father initiates communication with us.

Jesus bridged the gap between us and the Father so we can speak to the Father directly.

And His Spirit came to dwell in us which means we have a way to constantly communicate back and forth.

At its heart, prayer is a relational endeavor.
It is the way we communicate with the Triune God.

Something to think about:

- “If you didn’t believe God is **powerful** you wouldn’t ask Him to do big things.
- If you didn’t believe He is **attentive and caring**, you wouldn’t ask Him to do small things.
- If you didn’t believe He was **loving and merciful**, you wouldn’t confess your sins to Him because you would be afraid of Him.”

Remind of 2 kinds of fear:

1. fear = being afraid = run away from
2. fear of the Lord = reverential awe = praising and glorifying Him = run towards

Randi Talk
November 7
Session 7

Both kinds in Exodus 20:20

Moses said to the people, "Do not fear, for God has come to test you, that the fear of Him may be before you, that you may not sin."

To "fear God" is to see Him rightly in all of His beauty, and power, and wisdom, and goodness.

A few more things:

God is our safe space.

Hebrews 4:16 says:

Let us then **with confidence** draw near to the throne of grace, that we may **receive mercy** and **find grace** to **help** in time of need.
(remember one of Holy Spirit's names is the Helper)

God doesn't always say yes.

Sometimes the answer is no and

sometimes the answer is wait.

But whatever His answer, it is for our good.

Remember:

The point of praying is to not necessarily get what we want;
the point of praying is to "get" God.

CS Lewis said:

"I pray because I can't help myself. I pray because I'm helpless. I pray because the need flows out of me all the time, waking and sleeping. It doesn't change God. It changes me."

Because He is where the joy is.