



Tween Treats

Magazine for Tweens

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The Power Of Prayer

Prayer. It's such a common word, isn't it? You hear it in Church every Sunday. In fact, you probably pray at different times during the day. I 'pray' you do. But what is it really?



Well, to answer this question, I asked 11 fellow tweens what they thought prayer was, and here are their answers:

Prayer is when you speak to God and ask Him to help you.

Prayer is giving requests to God in order for him to perform and give you your desires.

Prayer is when you talk to God and worship Him.

Prayer is requesting things from God; however, you should follow His words and stay close to Him; for example, by reading your Bible.

Prayer is talking to God and there's no need to stutter because it's like talking to your friend.

Prayer is a conversation you have with God through His own special call. It's like talking to your parents.

Prayer is an act of supplication directed to God.

Prayer is when you talk to God, you acknowledge Him, thank

Him, tell Him how you feel, and pray for others.

Prayer is a conversation with God. It's when you talk to Him as a friend, lean on Him for help and learn who He is.

**...always pray and never give up.
Luke 18:1 NLT**

Prayer is when we give thanks, talk with God, and express our feelings of thanks or sorrow to Him.

Prayer is an act of communing with God and making one's desires known to God.

Wow! What a bunch of good answers! But what does the Bible say about Prayer? Good question, here's the answer.

Matt 6:9-13 "This, then, is how you should pray: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. NIV

You probably recognized this verse as you read it. It's called The Lord's Prayer usually, but I'll be calling it the 'Prayer Key'. Now, let's dig deeper into what this 'Prayer Key' has to say about Prayer.

First of all, it says 'Our Father in Heaven'. Not, 'My dear pet', or, 'Dear Mom and Dad', but to God. That

shows us that Prayer is talking to God our Father. Not anyone else.

Second, we have 'Hallowed be your name'. Hallowed means 'Blessed', or Praise, which would make the sentence mean, Blessed be your name, which shows us that Prayer is also praising God.

Let's compile the next two together, 'Your Kingdom Come and Your Will be Done'. Okay, so, simple, just like all the planets revolve around the Sun, Prayer is supposed to orbit around God coming and His will being done here on earth, and also in Heaven, meaning everything we pray about should be with the intent of letting God have the final say.

Let's see what else the Prayer Key says. 'Give us today our daily bread'. That proves that Prayer includes asking God for what we need.

Next it says, 'Forgive us our debts, as we also forgive our debtors'. This one is simple too, Forgiveness is an essential part of Prayer, we are supposed to ask for forgiveness when we pray, for ourselves, and others.

Lastly, we find, 'And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil'. Prayer is also about Protection. Only God can give true protection.

Let's compile all these together,

Prayer includes:

Praising God

Revealing our hearts to GOD

Asking God for what we need

Yielding to God and His desires

Exonerating our Sin

Receiving Protection

Whew! That was some serious digging! But, through it we've found out some important things about prayer.

Another thing I want you all to know is that God answers prayer. It may not always be a clear yes or no, but God does answer everyone's prayers, from the Zimbabwean living in Africa, to the Brazilian living in South America. To clarify this, I asked the same 11 tweens to share a testimony of how God answered their prayers. Here they are:

I had hay fever, and I prayed to God to heal me from it. The next day I was completely healed! I thanked God for healing me.

I prayed for help with my test, and I got all the question's right.

I prayed about some schoolmates who were being mean to me & my friend, they made me afraid, but, after a while I noticed they stopped.

When I turned 10 last year I asked God that my 10th birthday party would be a success, and God answered my prayer. It was a success.

I prayed to God for my father to receive his chemo and be healthy and it is slowly being answered.

I prayed that I would pass my 11-plus and God helped me. Even though I didn't make it into my sister's school, I am still happy of what God has done for me.

I prayed to get a dog, and I got one called Rosie on my birthday.

I asked God to heal my sickness and He did.

I prayed that God would help me do well in my exams and He did so.

My daddy got bitten by a German shepherd dog and it broke his skin. I prayed that they would not have to do anything serious to his leg, and though it was painful he was fine.

I asked God to help me win a competition and I won an award.

God loves and cherishes you and me, so He will never ignore our prayers. But, if you're still not certain even after those testimonies, here's a verse to help you out.

Psalm 17:6 I call on you, my God, for you will answer me; turn your ear to me and hear my prayer. NIV

This Psalm was written by David, yes, the one who killed Goliath and went on to become King.

This whole chapter of psalms 17 is actually a prayer itself, and, in the midst of it, David says that he knew God would answer him. If God answered David's prayers, then I assure you, He will answer yours. Now, Go on and Pray!

A very special thank you to all the preteens that contributed to this maiden issue of Tween Treats. Thank you for all your testimonies. We hope to publish some of your articles in the subsequent issues.

If you have drawings, stories or poems to add to the next edition please send it to cristo@oakofrighteousness.co.uk

Editor's note

To have this magazine in your hands is a proof of answered prayers; weeks of prayers went into this maiden edition. We asked the Lord for a printer, and weeks down the line, He heard us and provided us with the printer needed to print this magazine and our many other publications.