



PRAYER MEETING

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

**Tonight at 5:00 p.m.
Send off to Costa Rica!**

Why Pray?

“Heaven comes closer, the glory grows brighter, and hope grows more real to the one who prays!”



Why Pray?

“Answers will come, mountains will be moved, valleys made smooth, rivers made crossable, the inaccessible made accessible, the impossible made possible, dreams come true to the person who prays.”

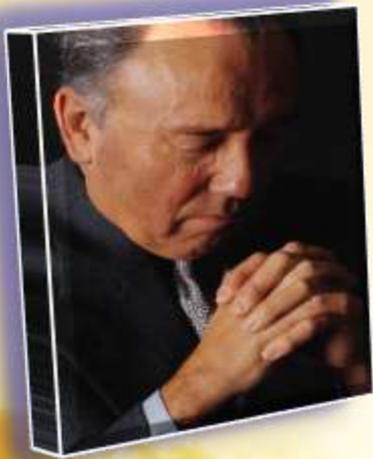


HOW TO PRAY?

Use **A-C-T-S**

- **A** *DORATION* (the upward look)
- **C** *ONFESSION* (the inward look)
- **T** *HANKSGIVING* (the roundward look)
- **S** *UPPLICATION* (the outward look).

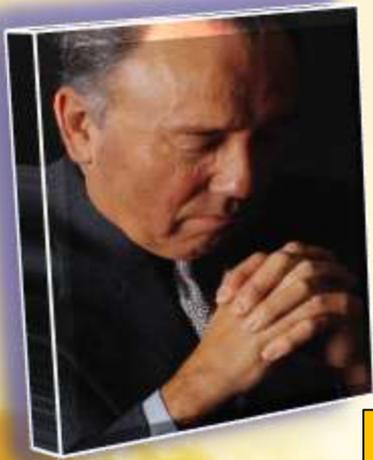
PRAYER IS THANKSGIVING



Teach Us To Pray Part 6

“Master, teach us *how to pray* even as John taught his disciples” (Lk 11:1).

PRAYER IS THANKSGIVING



THESIS:

1. Prayer is thanksgiving.
2. The need to develop grateful hearts!
3. Suggestions on how to pray *specific prayers* of thanksgiving.

PRAYER IS THANKSGIVING

Prayer is Thanksgiving

Ps 105:1-5

“Oh give thanks to the Lord, call upon His name. Make known His deeds among the people” (Ps 105:1).

FOCUS IS ON GOD



PRAYER IS THANKSGIVING

Prayer is *Thanksgiving*

Ps 116

“I love the Lord, because He hears My voice and my supplications.” (vs 1).

“What shall I render to the Lord for **all His benefits toward me?**” (vs 12).

“To Thee I shall offer a **sacrifice of thanksgiving**, and call upon the name of the Lord” (vs 17).

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Worship includes Thanksgiving

- Ps 100:4-5 “Enter His gates with thanksgiving And His courts with praise. Give thanks to Him, bless His name. 5 For the LORD is good; His lovingkindness is everlasting. His faithfulness is for all generations” (Ps 100:4-5).

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Phil 4:6

“Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.”NASU

PRAYER IS THANKSGIVING

Jesus set the Example

- “My Father I thank Thee” (Jn 11:41).

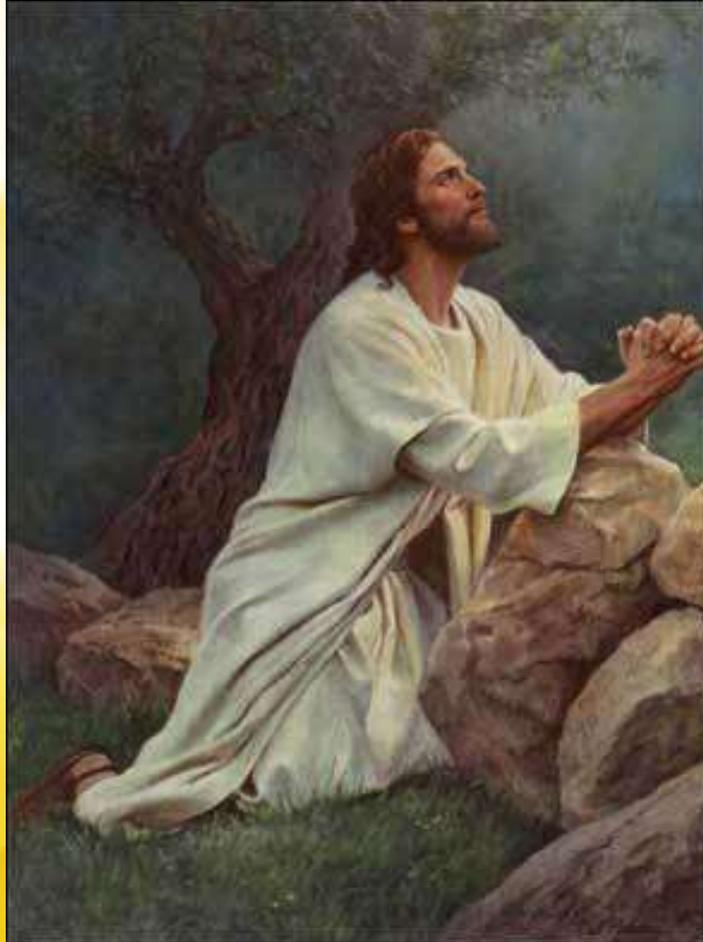


Thanking God for what's to come!

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Jesus set the Example

- “Thy Kingdom come thy will be done”
(Matt 6:10).



PRAYER IS THANKSGIVING

Must Develop *Thankful* Hearts

- American's are #15 out of 50 nations in happiness.
- Young people most unhappy, only 1/3 of those under 30 proud to be Americans (II Tim 3:1-2).



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A Simple Children's Prayer



*Thank you God for all that grows,
Thank you for the sky's rainbows,
Thank you for the stars that shine,
Thank you for these friends of mine,
Thank you for the moon and sun,
Thank you God for all you've done!*

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How Do I Offer Such a Prayer?

- Begin with basic simple things God has done for you (Acts 17:28).
- Make a list of things that are signs of progress and growth.
- Did your family experience hard times?
 - Consider what you learned from each situation (I Thess 5:18).

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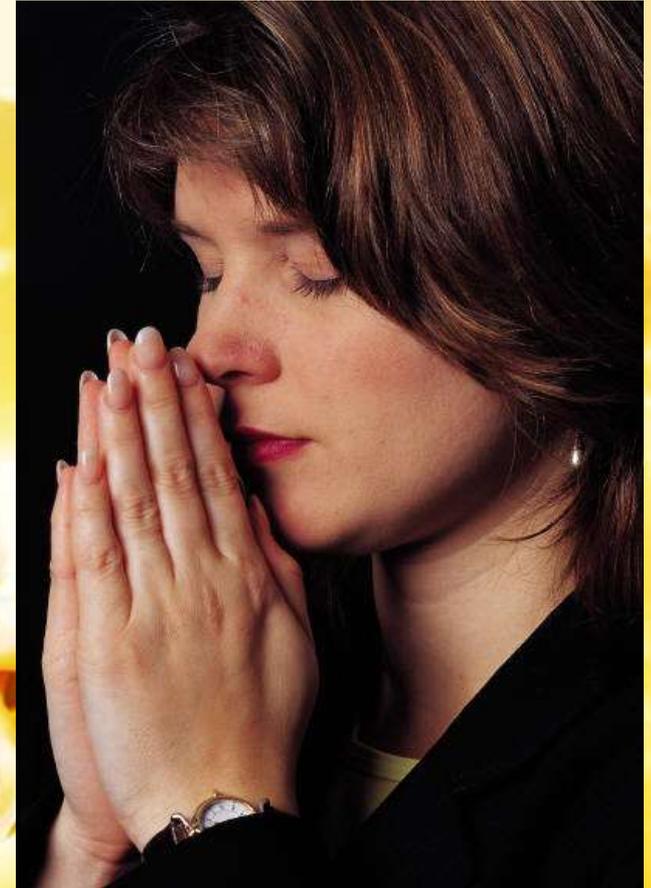
How Do I Offer Such a Prayer?

- Think of God's "exceedingly great and precious promises" (2 Peter 1:4) and **THANK GOD FOR WHAT IS TO COME!**
- To whom are you *close*? Name them.
- Name one *quality* that you're thankful for in each family member.

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Sobering Question – I Jn 4:20

- You don't really love God whom you cannot see, *if you don't love your brother whom you can see . . .*
- Then ... you can't be truly **thankful** to God whom you cannot see, if you are not thankful for your brother(s) whom you can see?

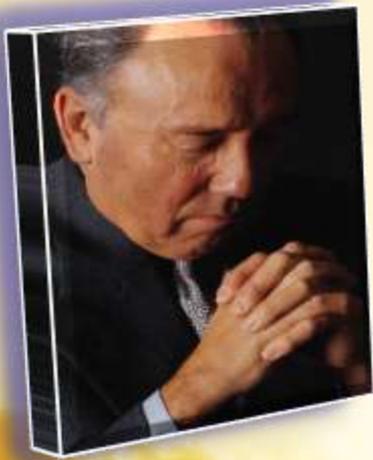


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Learn to Pray Through the Psalms

- Ps 50:23 "He who offers a sacrifice of thanksgiving honors Me."
- ***“Every emotion of the human heart is articulated in the Psalms.”***
- Use them as an *inspired prayer pattern.*

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