

Prayer

How to Pray.

I. Sin must be put away.

“But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid *his* face from you, that he will not hear.”--Isa. 59:2.

II. We must be obedient.

“And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.”--1 Jno. 3:22.

III. Our wills must be surrendered to God.

“And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us.”-- 1 Jno. 5:14.

IV. We must pray in the Spirit.

“Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints.”-- Eph. 6:18.

V. We must pray in the name of Christ.

“And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give *it* you.”-- Jno. 16:23.

VI. We must pray in faith.

“But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.”-- Jas. 1:6-7.

VII. We must be in earnest.

“I say unto you, Though he will not rise and give him, because he is his friend, yet because of his importunity he will rise and give him as many as he needeth.”-- Luke 11:8.

“Peter therefore was kept in prison: but prayer was made without ceasing of the church unto God for him.”-- Acts 12:5.

“And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly: and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground.”-- Luke 22:44.

(Arthur J. Smith, *Without Excuse*, Chicago, Illinois: Glad Tidings Publishing Co., [1905] 1907, 91-92)