

Prayer

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Prayer is a key element in our spiritual walk. Here is what Isaiah says:

“Then shalt thou call, and the Lord shall answer; thou shalt cry, and he shall say, Here I am. 14th verse: Then shalt thou delight thyself in the Lord; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.”-Isa_58:9

Rav Shaul (Paul) says: 1Th 5:17 “Pray without ceasing”.

What is prayer, and how can one pray without ceasing?

The Hebrew word for prayer is Tephilah from the root Palel . It means supplication, intercession. Prayer is asking the creator to answer our cries and desires by his grace, even though we surely do not deserve it.

Prayer is communicating with our maker. Therefore what Rav Saul says is “Always communicate with YHWH “ and 2 Cor 10:7 “bring to captivity every thought unto him “

The Lord also provided His Spirit to help us as he Rav Saul says in Rom 8:26

“Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groaning which cannot be uttered.”

Which is the main function of the gift of tongues.

Yeshua told us that prayer open the gates of heaven

Mar 11:24 For this reason I say to you, all things whatsoever you ask for in prayer, believe that you will receive them, and they will be yours. However this is qualified by Yaakov (James) the righteous Jam 4:3 Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts.

Yeshua also told us not to use it for religious show

Mat 6:5 And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. Mat 6:6 But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.

Mat 6:7 But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking

Yeshua than teaches us how to pray in the so called Lord’s prayer: Mat 6:8 Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him.

Mat 6:9 After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.

Mat 6:10 Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

Mat 6:11 Give us this day our daily bread.

Mat 6:12 And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

Mat 6:13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

Mat 6:14 For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you:

Mat 6:15 But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

From verse 8 we understand that God does not need our prayers to know our need. We need the prayer not God.

In a traditional Jewish way using the Kaddish as a model, Yeshua tell us to start with praise. By so doing we realize before whom we stand, and gain confidence, so that our needs are no longer a mountain but a small hill.

Only then can we proceed with our petition, and end with thanksgiving. The subject of the prayer is also a lesson in itself. First we should concern ourselves with God’s kingdom, and as Yeshua ambassadors represent our Father’s interest, not ours. We also reaffirm God’s sovereignty.

Our request should be for our needs not our cravings.

We can only receive God’s blessing when we dealt with our sins. We need to show the forgiveness we received from God to others. We need YHWH help to pass the test, realizing what Rav Saul said 1Co 10:13 There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

Rom 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose

Finally we need to realize that the Lord will deal with us as we deal with others, as Yeshua parable teaches when the king throw in prison the debtor who persecuted his debtor after being forgiven by the king Math 18 23-35.

We need to communicate with our heavenly father, and putting him first, and obedient, we will be bless as he seeks to bless his children.