

Power in Prayer

The Components of Prayer

I. Introduction

- Prayer, as a conversation with God, can be a complex and flowing in its structure and elements.
- The following outline is not exhaustive, but it does address the major elements we see in general teaching about prayer and the individual prayers found in Scripture.

II. **F**AITH

- Hebrews 11:6
- Prayer is more than just words or phrases. God is not waiting on us to say the “magic word” to begin answering us.
- Faith is the factor that transforms mere words into prayer. We believe that God can hear, will hear, and will answer our petitions.

III. **A**DORATION

- Matthew 6:9, Daniel 9:4, Psalm 18:3
- It is important to being here as this the tuning fork that sets the pitch to which the rest of our prayer harmonizes.
- When we praise God in prayer, we focus on His greatness and goodness and give Him the glory He is due.

IV. **C**ONFESSION

- Matthew 6:12, Daniel 9:5-15, I John 1:9-10
- In conjunction with praising and exalting God, we also must humble ourselves before Him.
- Although we are saved from the penalty of sin in salvation, we still have the presence of sin to contend with. Lest we succumb to the power of sin in our lives, we need to acknowledge our faults before God and seek His power to overcome them.

V. **T**HANKSGIVING

- I Thessalonians 5:16-18, Philippians 4:6
- Note - This element is not used explicitly in the Lord's Prayer, but could be implied in places such as in acknowledging His provision of our daily bread in Matthew 6:11.
- Praise exalts God for Who He is, Thanksgiving exalts Him for what He has done.
- In following this order, we naturally transition from our confession of unworthiness to the thanking God for salvation and forgiveness.

VI. **S**UPPLICATION

- Matthew 6:11-13, Daniel 9:16-19, Ephesians 6:18
- Take note that requests typically come at the end of a prayer as we are preparing ourselves up to this point to intreat God and hear from Him.
- Here we ask that God move according to His will be intreating for the furtherance of God's Kingdom, the needs of others, and finally our own needs.