

Chapter 3: Five Types of Prayer / Chapter 3A¹ & 3A²: Communing w/ God in His Word

(1 John 5:14-15) This is the confidence which we have before Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. ¹⁵ And if we know that He hears us *in* whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests which we have asked from Him. (NASB)

I. Series Theme Verses & Quotes:

(Matthew 6:10) “Your kingdom come. Your will be done, On earth as it is in heaven.” (NASB; ESV; NKJV)

(James 5:16) Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another so that you may be healed. The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much. (NASB) (NKJV adds “fervent”)

(James 5:16) Therefore, openly acknowledge your sins to one another, and pray for each other, so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective. (CJB: Complete Jewish Bible)

Quote 1: “When all is said and done regarding prayer; there is often more said than done.” (Author Unknown)

Quote 2: “Prayer is a dynamic interplay between God and us whereby His redemptive Kingdom purposes are birthed and established.” (gw) (Interplay = Communion; Communication; Dialogue; Interaction; Fellowship)

II. Series Goal(s): To See God Build a Church Community where there is a sustained prayer effort.

- A. To regularly remind ourselves that a lifestyle of personal and corporate prayer is a necessary prerequisite to witness God build a Church Community of Kingdom oriented people, who are able to maintain and bring increase to an atmosphere of the manifest presence of God.
- B. To see that Redeemed Kingdom Community reach an ever-widening group of lost people who become effective, mature, radically-committed disciples of Christ and fruitful soldiers in His Kingdom.

III. Five Types of Prayer:

- 1.) Reading Scripture as Prayer: Communing w/ God’s Heart, Ways, Law, Plans & More in His Word
- 2.) Praise & Worship as Prayer: Communing with God’s Holy Spirit & Manifest Presence in Worship
- 3.) Petitions: Letting our Request Be Known to God (Praying His Will; Releasing Faith by Thanksgiving)
- 4.) Intercession: Effective Intercession Principles – Modeled by Great Intercessors of the Bible
- 5.) Spiritual Warfare (Offense & Defense): Reality, Geography & Legalities of the Conflict.
 - a. Fighting to Progressively Win
 - b. Nothing in Me / Us

IV. Reading Scripture As Prayer: Communing with the Living Word by Reflectively Reading His Word

“For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.” (Matthew 12:34) (See Luke 6:45)

A. Some Aspects of Knowing God: Inextricably Intertwined w/ Others

(Jeremiah 9:23-24) Thus says the LORD, “Let not a wise man boast of his wisdom, and let not the mighty man boast of his might, let not a rich man boast of his riches; ²⁴ but let him who boasts boast of this, that he understands and knows Me, that I am the LORD who exercises lovingkindness, justice and righteousness on earth; for I delight in these things,” declares the LORD.

- 1.) God’s Heart, Mind, and Thoughts: (See Isaiah 55:11-12 after Pt. V, A, 2 immediately below)

(Matthew 22:26-38) “Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?” ³⁷ And He said to him, “‘You SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND.’” ³⁸ This is the great and foremost commandment. (Explain “All Your Mind” Quote in Biblical & Historical Context)

- 2.) God’s Ways: Redemptive Dealings (Individually & Corporately) / Character Studies / Testings

(Isaiah 55:11-12) “For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways,” declares the LORD. ⁹ “For *as* the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways And My thoughts than your thoughts. (Explain Context) (Define God’s Ways, Dealings & Testings)

3.) God's Law: Antinomianism vs. Theonomy

(Matthew 5:17-19) ¹⁷ "Do not think that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I did not come to abolish but to fulfill. ¹⁸ For truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke shall pass from the Law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹ Whoever then annuls one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others *to do* the same, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever keeps and teaches *them*, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven. (See Matt. 5:20-48 - Case Law Applications) (Galatians 3:24) Therefore the Law has become our tutor *to lead us* to Christ, so that we may be justified by faith

4.) God's Plans & Purpose: God's Eternal Decree & Eternal Covenant: (Genesis 18:17-19) (John 15:15) (Isaiah 46:9b-10) For I am God, and there is no other; *I am* God, and there is no one like Me, ¹⁰ Declaring the end from the beginning, And from ancient times things which have not been done, Saying, 'My purpose will be established, And I will accomplish all My good pleasure' (See also Ephesians 1:4-5)

(Hebrews 13:20) Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great Shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant ... (ESV) (See Numbers 23:19)

B. **Knowing the Living Word via Written Word**: (John 1: 1,14; 5:39) (1 John 1:1-2) (Acts 8:35) (Rev. 19:13) (Hebrews 4:12) For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. (See also Jeremiah 23:29)

(1 Thessalonians 2:13) For this reason we also constantly thank God that when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you accepted *it* not *as* the word of men, but *for what it really is*, the word of God, which also performs its work in you who believe.

(Luke 24:27, 44) ²⁷ Then beginning with Moses and with all the prophets, He explained to them the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures. ⁴⁴ Now He said to them, "These are My words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things which are written about Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled." ⁴⁵ Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, ⁴⁶ and He said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ would suffer and rise again from the dead the third day, ⁴⁷ and that repentance for forgiveness of sins would be proclaimed in His name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. (Explain)

C. **Meditating on Scripture**: Reading Scripture Reflectively, Contemplatively, Prayerfully & Devotionally
Note: See Search the Scriptures Series Part 3: Five Approaches to Bible Study.

1.) 5 Approaches to Bible Study: (1) Topical or Thematic; (2) Devotional; (3) Individual & Corporate Character Studies (God's Ways); (4) Exposition & / or Exegesis; (5) Systematic & Comprehensive Approach

2. Devotional: Meditating on Scripture; Reading Reflectively, Contemplatively & Prayerfully
(James 1: 21-25) Therefore, putting aside all filthiness and all that remains of wickedness, in humility receive the word implanted, which is able to save your souls. ²² But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves. ²³ For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror; ²⁴ for once he has looked at himself and gone away, he has immediately forgotten what kind of person he was. ²⁵ But one who looks intently at the perfect law, the law of liberty, and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer but an effectual doer, this man will be blessed in what he does.
(Joshua 1:8) This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on / memorize it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it; for then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have success. (Explain Meditate / Memorize) (See "Meditate" in Psalms)

V. **Upcoming** – Chapter 3B: Praise & Worship as Prayer: Communing with God's Spirit in Worship