

Various Forms of Prayer (Materials from Scripture and Other Sources)

Simple definition of Prayer:

A conversation with the Creator in Yeshua (Jesus) name and should be made without ceasing (John 14:12-14, 15:16, 16:22-24)

(1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, rejoice, pray & give thanks). As we grow in our love for Yeshua Christ, we will naturally desire to talk to Him. As we grow in the grace & Knowledge of Yeshua it stabilizes us 2 Peter 3:17-18

- 1) **The prayer of faith:** James 5:15 says, “And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up.” In this context, prayer is offered in faith for someone who is sick, asking God to heal. When we pray, we are to believe in the power, goodness and willingness of God (Mark 9:23).
- 2) **The prayer of agreement (also known as corporate prayer):** After Yeshua’s ascension, the disciples “all joined together constantly in prayer” (Acts 1:14). Later, after Pentecost, the early church “devoted themselves” to prayer (Acts 2:42). Their example encourages us to pray with others. Acts 12:5-18. Corporate prayer is praying in a group. This can bring a sense of unity and community to you and your fellow believers. If you have been to a church service, then you have experienced this kind of prayer. An example of this type of prayer is in **Acts 12:5-18**. In this passage, the church is praying for Peter’s wellbeing.
- 3) **The prayer of request (or supplication):** We are to take our requests to God. Philippians 4:6 teaches, “Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.” Part of winning the spiritual battle is to be “praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication” (Ephesians 6:18).
- 4) **The prayer of thanksgiving:** We see another type of prayer in Philippians 4:6: thanksgiving or thanks to God. “With thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.” Many examples of thanksgiving prayers can be found in the Psalms. Being thankful to our Creator (God) for what He has done. It is closely related to a prayer of worship, although the difference is that one is recognizing who God is, and the other is giving thanks to God for what He has done. Psalms 100:4 sums both of the prayer types up by saying, “Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name!”
- 5) **The prayer of worship:** The prayer of worship is similar to the prayer of thanksgiving. The difference is that worship focuses on who God is; thanksgiving focuses on what God has done. Hebrews 13:15 & Revelation 4:11 worshipping the

Lord focuses on who God is. It is us recognizing the Creator's power and majesty. These prayers can be as basic as, "Lord there is none like you", "God, you are so good." Or more detailed as in Revelation 4:11, "Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will, they existed and were created."

Worship can mean anything from singing praise songs, or it can mean simply doing what Hebrews 13:15 says, "Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name." Church leaders in Antioch prayed in this manner with fasting: "While they were worshipping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, 'Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.' Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off" (Acts 13:2-3).

- 6) **The prayer of consecration:** Sometimes, prayer is a time of setting ourselves apart to follow God's will. Yeshua made such a prayer the night before His crucifixion: "And going a little farther he fell on his face and prayed, saying, 'My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will'" (Matthew 26:39). Matthew 26:26-27- When we take communion, we are praying a prayer of consecration. This means we are consecrating the bread and wine (or grape juice) and asking God to make it holy.
- 7) **The prayer of intercession:** Many times, our prayers include requests for others as we intercede for them. We are told to make intercession "for everyone" in 1 Timothy 2:1. Yeshua serves as our example in this area. The whole of John 17 is a prayer of Yeshua on behalf of His disciples and all believers. The Bible also speaks of praying in the Spirit (1 Corinthians 14:14-15). Sometimes we don't know what we want or need to pray for at any given time. In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans.
- 8) **The prayer of imprecation:** Imprecatory prayers are found in the Psalms (7, 55, 69). They are used to invoke God's judgment on the wicked and thereby avenge the righteous. The psalmists use this type of appeal to emphasize the holiness of God and the surety of His judgment. Yeshua teaches us to pray for blessing on our enemies, not cursing (Matthew 5:44-48; Romans 11:9-10).