

WHY PRAY? PART 3

John 15:7

MAIN TAKEAWAY

Jesus commanded us to pray, not “if” but “when” (Luke 11:2). Prayer is **walking** with God daily, **staying in step** with Him, and **listening** before asking so that our prayers line up with His will. Through prayer, we partner with God to see His kingdom come and His will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Prayer is communion, fellowship, and the altar where God’s presence and power are released in our lives.

KEY SCRIPTURES

- **Luke 11:1-2 (NKJV)**
 - The one thing the disciples asked Jesus to teach them was to teach them *how to pray*.
 - Jesus laid out **10 topics**. The first **five focus on God**, the following five focus on us.
- **John 15:7 (NKJV)**
 - Abiding = walking with God daily.
 - Listening (Word abiding in you) comes before asking.
 - When we abide in His Word first, our prayers get answered for they are aligned with His will.
- **1 John 5:14–15 (NKJV)**
 - Confidence in prayer comes from knowing you’re praying His promises.
 - When we pray the Word of God, we pray covenant prayers.
- **John 16:13 (NKJV)**
 - The Holy Spirit guides, prompts, and confirms prayer in line with God’s Word.
 - He leads us by bringing Scripture to our remembrance.

TAKEAWAYS

- 1. Listen before you speak.**
 - a. Listening = reading the Word. When you read the Bible, God is talking to you.
- 2. Read the Bible daily.**
 - a. Breathing in = God speaking to you through His Word.
- 3. Speak to God.**
 - a. Breathing out = you speaking to God in prayer.
- 4. God’s Presence is manifested.**
 - a. Beyond God’s omnipresence, prayer invites the *manifest presence* of God into your life.

5. Transformation comes.

- a. Prayer changes me before it changes my circumstances.

REFLECT & REVISIT

Go back and read **1 Kings 18:1-40**. Reflect on how Elijah **built an altar** first and **then** God's fire fell. Our prayer life is the altar we build for God's fire to fall, for him to work in our lives. Start today and build your altar. Set aside a daily time of prayer this week, start by **listening in the Word** (reading Scripture) before you ask. Let your prayers flow from God's Word and His will.