

Student Discipleship Leader S.K.I.L.L. Lesson # 5

PRAYER: CONNECTING STUDENTS TO THE ESSENTIAL CONNECTION TO THE LORD – PRAYER!

1. It is a **HUGE understatement** to say that prayer is a part of the **discipleship** process of every believer. For youth to grasp this concept, prayer must be in proper perspective:

- ◆ **Prayer is about the Lord.** It is the essential connection to Him. When we pray we are actually in the presence of God Almighty.
- ◆ **Our prayer is honest communication.** Pride must be left behind. Our prayers should focus on the truth of scripture and not worldly gain.
- ◆ **Prayer is about accepting that we are in need.** We must be humble before the Lord in prayer and in lifestyle.

2. **Our prayer is admitting our need.**

We must confess our sin in prayer so that God will forgive us – He can't wait to get it right between us! A right relationship is the result of fervent prayer! We claim our dependence on God through prayer!

3. **In prayer we exercise our faith in the Lord.**

We become stronger in our faith as we daily work-out in prayer! Prayer is our opportunity to become all God desires.

4. **Prayer changes the one praying.**

The essence of prayer is that it is a conduit for the Holy Spirit to act in and through God's children. This conversation and relationship of prayer enables and empowers Christians to be the physical presence of the Lord in the world, in other words, be His hands and feet!

5. **Prayer is a time of full disclosure!**

There is nothing to hide when in quiet supplication we are reaching into the deepest part of ourselves. In so doing, our hearts are quieted and pride is stripped and we enjoy the presence of God. James 4:8 (HCSB) says, *"Draw near to God and He will draw near to you."*¹

6. **In our prayer we worship God.**

Our worship is in "Spirit and Truth" and that is exactly what prayer is about. God looks directly into our heart when we pray and knows our motives.

¹ What is Prayer? <http://carm.org/christianity/prayer-ministry/what-prayer>, accessed on December 6, 2011.

Student Discipleship Leader S.K.I.L.L. Lesson # 5

7. Prayer is a time of thanksgiving.

In prayer we express how thankful we are to the Lord for His providence and attributes. God loves his children and prayer is our return of thankful praise to Him.

8. Prayer is our time to place all of our requests at the feet of the Lord.

We know God hears us and hears our requests. Our requests need to be in the Father's hands and not in ours – "...*Apart from Me, you can do nothing!*" John 15:5 (NIV)

9. We should pray ALWAYS.

Our prayer is a continual conversation with God. As our relationship with the Lord grows, our prayer life becomes evident.

10. Prayer is the ONLY place in which we receive the POWER of God! Stay Strong!

Student Discipleship Leader S.K.I.L.L. Lesson # 5

Listening Guide

PRAYER: CONNECTING YOUTH TO THE ESSENTIAL CONNECTION TO THE LORD – PRAYER!

1. It is a **HUGE** _____ to say that prayer is a part of the _____ process of every believer. For youth to grasp this concept, prayer must be in proper perspective:

- ◆ **Prayer is about the _____.** It is the essential connection to Him. When we pray we are actually in the presence of God Almighty.
- ◆ **Our prayer is _____ communication.** Pride must be left behind. Our prayers should focus on the truth of scripture and not worldly gain.
- ◆ **Prayer is about _____ that we are in _____.** We must be humble before the Lord in prayer and in lifestyle.

2. **Our prayer is _____ our _____.**

We must confess our sin in prayer so that God will forgive us – He can't wait to get it right between us! A right relationship is the result of fervent prayer! We claim our dependence on God through prayer!

3. **In prayer we _____ our _____ in the Lord.**

We become stronger in our faith as we daily work-out in prayer! Prayer is our opportunity to become all God desires.

4. **Prayer _____ the one praying.**

The essence of prayer is that it is a conduit for the Holy Spirit to act in and through God's children. This conversation and relationship of prayer enables and empowers Christians to be the physical presence of the Lord in the world, in other words, be His hands and feet!

5. **Prayer is a time of _____!**

There is nothing to hide when in quiet supplication we are reaching into the deepest part of ourselves. In so doing, our hearts are quieted and pride is stripped and we enjoy the presence of God. James 4:8 (HCSB) says, "Draw near to God and He will draw near to you."

6. **In our prayer we _____ God.**

Our worship is in "Spirit and Truth" and that is exactly what prayer is about. God looks directly into our heart when we pray and knows our motives.

7. **Prayer is a time of _____.**

Student Discipleship Leader S.K.I.L.L. Lesson # 5

In prayer we express how thankful we are to the Lord for His providence and attributes. God loves his children and prayer is our return of thankful praise to Him.

8. **Prayer is our time to _____ all of our _____ at the _____ of the Lord.**

We know God hears us and hears our requests. Our requests need to be in the Father's hands and not in ours – "...*Apart from Me, you can do nothing!*" *John 15:5 (NIV)*

9. **We should pray _____.**

Our prayer is a continual conversation with God. As our relationship with the Lord grows, our prayer life becomes evident.

10. **Prayer is the _____ place in which we receive the _____ of _____!**
Stay Strong!