Welcome Letter

To my fellow brothers and sisters in Christ,

Greetings!

WePray.com is the last project piece before I start my career search in web development. This was an idea I’ve had for a while, and I hope that it is of use to you and your spiritual community.

While many of us are different, we are all brought together as brothers and sisters in Christ. One of the best things we can do to each other is to pray for each other. This site was designed for us to love each other in this way.

Here are some of the main features to this site:

* As a participating member, you are encouraged to pray for each other, as well as ‘subscribe’ to prayer requests. A prayer request subscription means that for a specified number of weeks (3 is the default), your weekly WePray digest will include that prayer request. Additionally, when a request is closed (or when the requestor sees it as ‘praised’), an email will be sent.
* Any registered member can post a prayer request and can allow the whole WePray prayer community to see it or even just limit to preferences within their own local spiritual community (ie, only members that share the same church or fellowship will see their request).
* The default settings for each new registered member is turned off for email notifications for weekly request subscription digest, ‘liked’ prayers, and comments (on your requests) for consideration of the user. However, to harness the full benefits, it is encouraged for you to turn each of these on in your profile settings.

Thank you for your time in reading this letter.

May the Lord, our Jesus Christ, continue to bless your life with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms.

In His Name,

Eli Tung

Gospel

What is “The Gospel?” Gospel means ‘good news’ and it is referred to as such, because it is really great news that Jesus has died for our sins and, even more than that, conquered death for us.

John 3:16

Why was this necessary? In brief summary of biblical history, sin was introduced through The Fall of Adam and Eve. Ever since, every human that has been brought to life on this earth has fallen short of God’s holiness (Romans). Sin is essentially the state of rebellion toward God- we reject his commands and assume the authority that He has in our lives. It is because of our fallen, sinful state that we are unable to stand before the presence of the holy God, who created us and gave us of his spirit. In fact, the consequence of our rebellion toward God is death and Hell-eternal separation from God. However, God’s master plan has always included Jesus (Jesus was, even before the world was created). When the time was right, God came down to earth, as Jesus, who was both God and man, to not only redeem us, but even more, to glorify Himself. Through Jesus, God chose to limit his powers and suffer life on earth, if only to show us the love He has for us. Because death is a just consequence of our sin, a life must be paid for our sins. It was our sins that put Jesus on the cross- and it is his death that atones for all sin in all eternity (for all who believe- those that God has elected). However, not only had Jesus died for our sins, but three days later, he rose from the dead, conquering death- it was only through Jesus, both God and man, that God’s will for humankind could be accomplished while maintaining justice (getting what we deserve- Jesus took our punishment), mercy (not receiving what we deserve- death), and grace (unmerited favor, or getting what we don’t deserve- an untainted, unblemished, holy, sanctified standing before God).

The Christian worldview is the only worldview that can adequately answer all essential questions:

Why are we here? God created us

Why

Prayer

What is prayer?

While we all associate praying as having communication to God, in the Christian life, praying is essentially the act of communing with God. To have a full appreciation of prayer, one needs to fully understand the gospel. God is an incredibly personal being and prayer is the primary means of which believers connect, relate, and communicate with Him- and one of the essential ways in which we grow in our heart attitude and character. We cannot grow in our relationship to God without dialogue- prayer is our response to His words. Prayer is a blessing- before Jesus entered into the world, the biblical history tells us that communication with God was only possible through the Jewish High Priest, and only after several cleansing rituals. Additionally, before Jesus Christ’s redemptive death, our sins were only covered through animal sacrifice- it was only by Jesus’ death that we could ask for God’s forgiveness through confession in prayer. Ultimately, it is Jesus who now acts as our high priest and intercessor in heaven (Hebrews 7:24-25). Ultimately, through prayer, we grow in our personal trust relationship with God and are transformed into Christ-likeness.

How do we pray?

One of the most well-known prayer models amongst Christians is called ACTS, short for: Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, and Supplication.

Adoration (or Praise) – focusing on who God is and his attributes, giving God the glory He deserves

Confession- confessing and bring forth to God our sins. This is when we admit and own up to our specific sins before God. It is only by our faith that God renews our heart and forgives us. Ultimately, our fellowship with God is restored.

Thanksgiving – giving thanks to God for the blessings that He’s provided and done for us.

Supplication – bringing to God our spiritual and physical needs.

Additionally, there is also Intercession – bringing to God others’ needs

In fact, Jesus models prayer for us in Matthew 6:9-13 (although his format is more like ASC:

9“This, then, is how you should pray:

“‘Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
10your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
    on earth as it is in heaven.  
11Give us today our daily bread.  
12And forgive us our debts,  
    as we also have forgiven our debtors.  
13And lead us not into temptation,[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew%206:5-13#fen-NIV-23296a)]  
    but deliver us from the evil one.[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew%206:5-13#fen-NIV-23296b)]’

Encouragement to pray:

Matthew 7:7

Acts 2:42

Romans 2:12

Ephesians 6:18

Philippians 4:6