

## BAHRAIN REFORMED BAPTIST CHURCH

### *The Grace of God: Prayer*

December 5, 2024

#### Preliminary

Note: The true prayer that is pleasing to God is the prayer that He Himself has given and oversees

- The receiver of grace are called to have fellowship with God... Jn 3:5; Lk 18:13  
John 4:23 = *But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him*

Romans 5:1-2 = *Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>2</sup> Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God*

- The Holy Spirit helps us to pray... Jude 1:20; Acts 2:4.

Romans 8:26-27 = *Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. <sup>27</sup> And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God*

John 14:26 = *But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you*

Point: Prayer is the primary means by which believers communicate their emotions, desires, hopes, and fellowship with God

#### 1. Reasons for Prayer

- (a) Asking God for our needs... Mt 7:7-8; Col 1:9
- (b) Expressing what is in the heart (burdens or joy)... Ps 62:8
- (c) Obeying God's will... Mt 26:39, 42, 44; 6:10
- (d) Fellowship and meeting with God's presence... Ps 27:4; Rev 3:20; Heb 4:14-16; 1 Pt 5:7
- (e) For peace of heart... Phil 4:6-7; 1 Pt 5:7
- (f) Proof that He alone is our need and hope... Isa 12:2
- (g) Declaring our love for God... Jn 14:21
- (h) Thankfulness for God's faithfulness and goodness... Mt 7:11
- (i) Acknowledging God and His completed works... 2 Kgs 19:15; Ps 86:12-13; Rom 11:33-36
- (j) Because God has commanded us to pray... Mt 6:9

Challenge: True worship of God will be revealed by how we pray to Him

- Our love and relationship with God grow each time we pray

#### 2. Guidelines for Prayer

Note: Pray with trust and faith in God

- (a) Pray to the God of the Trinity
  - Ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit... Rom 8:26
  - Pray to the Father... Jn 16:23; 15:16
  - Ask and thank the Father for what has been prayed in the Name of Christ Jesus... Jn 16:23; 14:13, 14; 15:16; Col 3:17
- (b) Ask with faith and without doubt... James 1:6
- (c) Do not be hypocritical in prayer... Mt 6:5; Jn 4:24
- (d) Be sincere in prayer (whether private or corporate)... Mt 6:6
- (e) Do not pray with meaningless, repetitive prayers... Mt 6:7

Point: The Father knows our needs before we ask Him... Mt 6:8

Warning: Those who are hypocrites in their prayers will face judgment from God... Mt 6:5; Mk 12:40

Challenge: Sinners have no desire to pray (Ps 10:4), but it is natural for the children of God to pray

Luke 11:1 = *When you pray...*

#### 3. Rules of Prayer

Note: The Lord provided the right way to pray

Matthew 6:9 = *Pray then like this...*

- (a) With worship and praise... Ps 145:3; Isa 6:3  
Matthew 6:9 = *Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name*
- (b) With submission  
v. 10 = *Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven*  
Point: A Christian must follow God's will—in mind, word, and deed.
- (c) With petition  
v. 11 = *Give us this day our daily bread*  
Note: Every petition has sufficiency and benefit for both self and others
  - What is needed more: spiritual food... Mt 4:4; Lk 4:4
- (d) Asking for forgiveness (Review of forgiveness)  
v. 12 = *and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors*
- (e) Prayer for guidance and protection  
v. 13 = *And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.*
- (f) Intercession for the good of others and government officials...  
Col 4:2; 1 Tim 2:1-2
- (g) With trust and patience in God's response... 1 Jn 5:14-15; Lk 18:1-8
- (h) Pray without ceasing... 1 Thes 5:16-18

***Prayer is not done to make God follow our will,  
but to align with His will in heaven and on earth***