

THE CHRISTIAN TEEN/YOUTH

1. New Life in Christ

2. My prayer life

"...Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil. For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places.

Therefore, put on every piece of God's armor so you will be able to resist the enemy in the time of evil. Then after the battle you will still be standing firm. Stand your ground, putting on the belt of truth and the body armor of God's righteousness. For shoes, put on the peace that comes from the Good News so that you will be fully prepared. In addition to all of these, hold up the shield of faith to stop the fiery arrows of the devil. Put on salvation as your helmet, and take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere." Eph. 6:10-18 NLT

Prayer is talking to God and listening to God. Communication has taken place only when there is a corresponding feedback from the receiver or recipient. Many people have described prayers in their own way, but the basic element of an effective prayer is when there is communication backed up with the correct feedback from the receiver. This means, whenever you talk to God, you should believe he hears you and will answer you, which is the feedback. Until there is an answer to the request you make unto God, it's no complete spiritual exercise. Every believer is designed to pray. No prayer no Christianity; no prayer no true faith. From the Garden of Eden man had been praying, and through the Old Testament men prayed and got God's response to their problems.

You must be born of God

This level of prayer exercise begins from the origin of your life, who is your father? If you have not received Christ into your life through faith, you don't have his life in you, he's not yet your eternal and heavenly Father, because he doesn't yet have your name in his heart as one he has born (John 3:3, 5-8). You should call on him right now; ask that he comes to your heart as your Father, and you his child. With this, you can begin your journey of prayer relationship with your new friend to any extent your faith can take you.

Prayer is fellowship

Humans were created by God to fellowship with him without ceasing. That is why man is the only creature as the breath of God. Until your prayer becomes a fellowship with God, you will not get the best of him. Prayer is Koinonia; it is communion, intimacy, 'intercourse' with God, and fellowship with the Godhead (John 1:3). Believers don't come to God to pray because they have a problem or something they want done that's greater than their human abilities, Christians pray because it is the will of God for their lives; it is the only way to be the correct Christian.

In the natural sense, in the family setting, your parent do not talk with you only when they want to give you a gift or what you requested from them, and you do not come to them only when you have something to ask or get from them. Relationship existed between you and them on a neutral ground as God has ordained. Even when you have offended any of them, you still belong to them because you cannot take away from you the gene (biological element) of resemblance which makes you theirs biologically. They may be mad at you in response, but will forgive you when you approach them for pardon, and the family relationship continues again.

In the same way, you are to relate with God, a parent-child relationship. Getting anything from the Lord in prayers should be an addendum, not the main reason why you pray. Yes, when things become difficult you are to go to him for his help, but you don't always have to wait for difficult times to appear. When you dwell daily in him in unceasing relations, and praying always, studying the word day and night, you might not experience difficult times by surprise. He would have helped you build enough capacity to handle it.