



WELCOME TO
"STARTING POINT"
Laying The Foundation Growing in Christ

SESSION THREE: DISCOVERING CONFIDENCE IN PRAYER

"Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know." Jeremiah 33:3

QUESTIONS:

How do I pray? How do I know God will answer my prayers?

INTRODUCTION:

Because Jesus is our Savior and Lord we have _____ to speaking _____ to the Father through the Son: What a privilege! He cares about you so intensely that He's interested in every aspect of your life. You can come into His presence "with freedom and confidence." However, our adversary tries to undermine this confidence by saying such things as "*Who do you think you are to assume God will listen to you? or the God of the universe is too busy to be interested in you and your life.*"

But, we can have confidence!

How do I pray?

1 I _____ to God. I _____ to God.

"God, who has called you into fellowship with His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, is faithful. "
1 Corinthians 1:9

2. I talk to God with _____.

"In Him and through faith in Him we may approach God with freedom and confidence." Ephesians 3:12

3. I talk to God because I'm _____.

"And I will pour out a Spirit of grace and supplication....." Zechariah 12:10(a)

"In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us.... " Romans 8:26



There are four types of conversations with God.

ADORATION – _____.

CONFESSIONS - _____.

THANKSGIVING – _____.

SUPPLICATION – _____.

How do I know God will **answer my prayers?**

1. Because I'm asking based on _____.

"Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete." John 16:24

2. Because I'm asking according to _____.

"This is the confidence we have in approaching God; that if we ask anything according to His will He hears us. And if we know that He hears us --- whatever we ask --- we know that we have what we asked of Him." 1 John 5:14,15

3. Because He has _____.

"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For every one who asks receive ; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened. "
Matthew 7:7

4. Because I have _____ about what I asked.

"Dear Friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God and receive from Him anything we ask, because we obey His commands and do what pleases Him. "
1 John 3:21,22

Avoid the "NO's" in your prayers.

- Turn from personal WRONGDOING
"If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened." Psalm 66:18



"When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on pleasures." James 4:3

**STARTING POINT
GROWING IN CHRIST STUDY
SESSION #3**

CASE STUDY::

I'm frustrated with my prayer life. A lot of times, I don't feel like praying...but I know I should. When I do pray and ask God for a better job, better relationship with my spouse or for my brother to come to Christ, I don't see any real concrete improvements. I am starting to think what's the use of praying,

Case Questions:

1. How would you counsel a person with these feelings?

2. Under what situation do you think we can persist with our prayer request?

3. What role does waiting play in our prayer life?
