

## Just Pray About Everything

I used to think that prayer was all about asking the Lord for things. I used to think that humbling ourselves before Him meant that we get on our knees, and ask for what we wanted as respectfully & nicely as possible. I thought that once we did it that way, then our requests were practically assured. Man was I off-base.

It wasn't until many years into adulthood that I began to realize there is so much more to it than that. It seems like it took me forever to learn that prayer, when handled Spiritually correctly, has a great deal more to do with establishing and maintaining our relationship with the Lord than it has to do with making requests. And it has to be a two-way street, meaning that it's just as important to listen to Him as it is to talk out our concerns and requests. In fact, now I think that listening may even be more important, because it taps us into the Lord's actual thought processes about any given situation, and then it provides the strength, wisdom and guidance we need in order to work things out.

So now, I pray about everything!

When I'm not feeling well, I pray (Lord I need a mental or Spiritual adjustment, what should I do);

When I'm afraid of something, I pray (Lord, what would you have me do here in this situation);

When I'm confused about something or someone, I pray (Lord, help me please to look at things and people the same way you do, and handle them the same way you would);

When I'm feeling apprehensive about anything, I pray (Lord here's the issue, please handle it and work it for good; and please let me know what, if anything, you want me to do in this, or whether I should simply leave it in Your hands while I just keep moving forward);

When I don't understand something, I pray (for Godly, not worldly, wisdom & enlightenment);

Even when I'm feeling great about everything, I pray (Lord, I just want to say thank you);

And finally, when I am not able to put my prayers into words, I pray anyway (by just listening, and saying absolutely nothing).

I cannot think of a single issue or circumstance when prayer is not appropriate. And I cannot think of any prayer I've ever made that was not answered ("Yes"; "Not Yet"; or "I have something better in mind"), meaning that they've always been addressed, and most of the time pretty quickly. But the responses have rarely come in any foreseeable way.

Further, the answers always come in the Lord's way and time. I don't think He lingers in His responses to us, I just think that we may not always be in tune with what He's trying to tell us timely, or in tune with His modus operandi. I think that once we internalize how He thinks & operates, though, we can anticipate answers to every one of our prayers timely, though not always completely (I believe He "spoon-feeds" us with regard to complex solutions as we become ever more able to manage the complexities of the issues; I really think there's a direct correlation with that, and I don't believe that age is necessarily a factor).

Now, with a greater, though by no means complete, understanding of all that, I very often crave prayer like some people crave food. It's most often eagerly anticipated.

I hope you have an incredible day Precious Woman!! Always in your corner.

- Jack

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### **1 Samuel 12:23 (GWT)**

It would be unthinkable for me to sin against the LORD by failing to pray for you. I will go on teaching you the way that is good and right.