

# What is Prayer?—A Definition

**Prayer is communicating with  
God**

# What is Prayer?—Types of Prayer

- 1. Adoration:** Expressing love for who God is.
- 2. Praise:** Expressing appreciation for what God has done.
- 3. Confession:** Expressing sorrow for how our lives are misaligned with God's will.
- 4. Yielding:** Expressing alignment with God's will.
- 5. Supplication:** Expressing a request of God's will.

# What is Prayer?—The Goal of Prayer

## **1. Personal Alignment with God**

(Seen in Confession and Yielding)

## **2. Universal Alignment with God**

(Seen in Supplication)

# What is Prayer?—The Goal of Prayer



*Dr. Wesley Duewell*

From his book, Touch  
the World Through  
Prayer

“Through prayer...”

# What is Prayer?—The Goal of Prayer



*Dr. Wesley DUEWELL*

*“God has given you a way to make your presence count, a way to be a true partner in his kingdom’s work, if you really want to be.”*

# What is Prayer?—The Result of Prayer

Personal Alignment with God

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Co-laboring with God for Universal Alignment

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Peace

# What Makes Supplication Effective?

# What Makes Supplication Effective? —Hindrances to Prayer

- **Sin:** Isa 59:2 See also Ps 66:18; Jer 14:10-12; La 3:42-44; Mic 3:4
- **Disobedience:** Zec 7:13 See also Dt 1:43-45; Pr 1:28-31
- **Selfishness:** Jas 4:3
- **Injustice:** Isa 1:15-17 See also Pr 21:13; Isa 58:1-7
- **Lack of Faith:** Jas 1:6-7



# What Makes Supplication Effective? —Prerequisites to Prayer

- **Humility:** Lk 18:9-14 See also 2Sa 7:18; 2Ch 7:14; Ps 51:16-17; Isa 57:15; Mt 8:8 pp Lk 7:6
- **Obedience:** 1Jn 3:21-22 See also 1Sa 15:22; Jer 7:22-23
- **Righteousness:** Pr 15:29 See also 1Ki 3:11-12; Ps 34:15
- **Single-mindedness:** Jer 29:13 See also Dt 4:29; 1Ch 28:9
- **Faith:** Mt 21:21-22 pp Mk 11:22-24 See also Mt 7:7-11 pp Lk 11:9-13; Mt 8:5-13 pp Lk 7:1-10; Mt 15:21-28 pp Mk 7:24-30; Jn 14:12-14

# What Makes Supplication Effective? —A Road-Map: APCYS

- 1. Adoration:** Expressing love for who God is.
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What Can I Expect from my Supplications?  
—Expect God to Have Heard You

## **1 John 5:14 ESV**

And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us.

# What Can I Expect from my Supplications?

—Expect God to Answer “Yes”, “No”, or “Not Yet”

## **1 Samuel 1:27** ESV—Yes

For this child I prayed, and the LORD has granted me my petition that I made to him.

## **Genesis 17:17** ESV—Not Yet

Then Abraham fell on his face and laughed and said to himself, “Shall a child be born to a man who is a hundred years old?”

## **2 Corinthians 12:8** ESV—No

Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me.

What Can I Expect from my Supplications?

—Expect God to Answer “Yes”, “No”, or “Not Yet”

## **2 Corinthians 12:9-10 ESV**

But [God] said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

What Can I Expect from my Supplications?  
—Expect God to Answer “Yes”, “No”, or “Not Yet”

## **Philippians 4:6-7 ESV**

Paul knew all too well what he was talking about when he wrote do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

What Can I Expect from my Supplications?  
—Expect God to Work for the Good of Humanity  
and His glory.



John Sharing Christ



John Seriously  
Hospitalized Again

What Can I Expect from my Supplications?

—Expect God to Work for the Good of Humanity and His glory.

## **Romans 8:28 ESV**

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.





