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

From his book, *Touch the World Through Prayer*

“Through prayer...”

*Dr. Wesley Duewell*
What is Prayer?—The Goal of Prayer

“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.”

Dr. Wesley Duewell
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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3. **Confession**: Expressing sorrow for how our lives are misaligned with God’s will.
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5. **Supplication**: Expressing a request of God’s will.
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 to 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.