

The Recent Improvement in My Prayer Life

Brother Wang / 2024-01-22



In the past six months, I have been practicing prayer, and Sammy Tippit and other senior prayer warriors have taught me what they have learned about prayer. After following these exercises, I feel that my prayer life has improved a lot, which simply means that I am more fond of praying, I am more willing to pray, I know more about prayer, and the time I spend in prayer is getting longer and longer. The following is what I have recently learned about prayer. Finally, I would like to record a thought I had when my prayer was answered in the opposite direction.

First, Sammy defines prayer as the communication part of a loving and intimate relationship with God. Although I know the importance of prayer, that it is the starting point of service, and that I myself pray often at regular times and places, this understanding still makes me more willing to come to prayer.

I learn that in the beginning of a prayer, it is important to first focus all of my thoughts on God, not on my own prayer requests or those around

me; realizing God's presence means for me to first see in the inner chambers of my mind the glorious and loving Father seated on the throne, Jesus Christ interceding on my behalf at the right hand of the Father, the angels around praising, and the Holy Spirit reminding and confirming me in my heart.

Using praise and worship will effectively guide my thoughts to recall the character of my Heavenly Father, which doesn't exactly overlap with that of our earthly fathers, and is sometimes even far from it, so the loving and wonderful character of my Heavenly Father will make it more enjoyable for me to come and meet with Him, and will make me more focused and confident in my prayers. And when praying with brothers and sisters disciples, their prayers will remind me of those I hadn't thought of. And singing hymns is a form of praise and worship.

During praise and worship, in the light of God, one may be reminded of one's transgressions and so begin to repent for them, so repentance does not necessarily have to be at the beginning of a prayer.

In cleansing the conscience, confessions to be made include In what ways have I hurt God? Also, I should ask for people's forgiveness and forgive people in your heart, all people, whether the other person has apologized or not.

When praying, remembering that He is the King and I am the servant, asking God to lead me in prayer, to teach me how to pray for His kingdom, how to pray according to His heart and desires. And to use the original words of verses in the Bible as my prayers will ensure that I pray according to God's heart, and in this way I can allow God to replace my heart with His heart. The more willing I am to submit to God's will, the more I am guided by the Holy Spirit, and the easier it seems to be for me to discern which is the voice of the Holy Spirit.

In prayer, if I get distracted from God and think of something else, simply pray for that thing that comes to mind and then turn back to my original track.

When praying with my brothers and sisters, I need to remind myself that since prayer is a communication with my dear Heavenly Father and not a conversation between me and someone else, and it is not meant to make others think highly of me in any way, I need to be authentic and free of hypocrisy.

I am always in a spiritual battle, realizing that it is Satan who is working and attacking. And he is always trying to make me doubt, be deceived, feel depressed, or be at odds with someone. Prayer is not a waste of time, and by prayer I can overcome all temptations, crying out “Jesus save me” when I am tempted, and “Jesus, you have living water, you can satisfy me” when I feel a hunger and thirst in my soul.

Sleeping or lying still in bed at night is a good time for me to practice listening prayer, to put down my phone, to close my eyes and think about God's glory, grace, protection, and mercy, and to wait for His voice to me.

Prayer leads to revival, revival leads to willingness to evangelize, and evangelism leads to discipleship.

I need to continue to practice and deepen all of the above. One thing I have not yet done is to write prayer journals.

Recently a prayer was answered in the opposite way. An old friend became suddenly ill and I prayed that he would recover, but he soon passed away. This one made me a little skeptical about the effectiveness of prayer, and it began to affect my passion for prayer.

But in reading John 4:46-53, I see that an official had only a small amount of faith in Jesus, but Jesus still had compassion on him and healed his seriously ill son. And then I remembered that at 2 Kings 13:14 it is written that Elisha was sick with a disease that would surely result in death,

but was still working with God to perform miracles. This made me realize that God is willing to heal all of our diseases, including my old friend's, and that the only time He doesn't heal us is when He wants to take us back to our heavenly home, or when He has a special intention to do so (such as the thorn in Paul's flesh). Other than that, He is willing and able to heal all.

Once I realized this, my little doubt disappeared and my confidence to pray for the sick came back.