

# Pursuing God

## *The Practice of Prayer*

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### The Chair

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- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ . . . \_\_\_\_\_ Your \_\_\_\_\_ .  
Hearing God. . . Discerning His Voice - Messages 9 & 10

Like it or not, drawing near to God requires time. . . . Those who do not carve out time, particularly those who rationalize their reluctance to do so by claiming "I pray without ceasing," usually end up praying very little. (C. Peter Wagner, *Warfare Prayer*)

- 2) \_\_\_\_\_ It . . . \_\_\_\_\_ .

Beware of the teachers of the law . . . [They] for a show make lengthy prayers. (Luke 20:46-47)

When you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. (Matthew 6:7-8)

- 3) \_\_\_\_\_ It . . . \_\_\_\_\_ .

The LORD is my shepherd,  
I lack nothing. (Psalm 23:1)

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? (Psalm 22:1)

Sometimes we harbor an unexpressed suspicion that Jesus cannot handle all that goes on in our minds and hearts. We doubt that he can accept our hateful thoughts, cruel fantasies and bizarre dreams. We wonder how he would deal with our primitive urges, our inflated illusions, and our exotic mental castles. The deep resistance to making ourselves so vulnerable, so naked, so unprotected is our implicit way of saying, "Jesus, I trust you, but there are limits." By refusing to share our fantasies, worries, and joys, we limit God's lordship over our life and make clear that there are parts of us that we do not wish to submit to a divine conversation. It seems that the Master had something more in mind when he said, "Trust in me" (John 14:1b).  
(Brennan Manning, *Ruthless Trust*)

4) \_\_\_\_\_ . . . Your \_\_\_\_\_.

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.  
(Philippians 4:6-7)

5) \_\_\_\_\_ . . . To \_\_\_\_\_ What \_\_\_\_\_.

⇒ *ACTS (Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication)*

⇒ *The Lord's Prayer*  
Luke 11:1-4

⇒ *Written Prayers*

⇒ *Praying Scripture*

⇒ *A Prayer Journal*

⇒ *Extemporaneous*

⇒ *Prayer Walks*

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. (Ephesians 6:18)

6) \_\_\_\_\_ . . . \_\_\_\_\_ The \_\_\_\_\_.

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7) \_\_\_\_\_ . . . To \_\_\_\_\_.

Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.

(1 Samuel 3:9)

Prayer is listening for God, hearing what God has to say, consenting to what God does say, asking of God power to obey.  
(G. Campbell Morgan)

## Pursuing God

### *The Key Question*

⇒ \_\_\_\_\_ . . . \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ ?

I hear many people say, "I really struggle trying to have time alone with God." If that is a problem you face, let me suggest something: make the priority in your life to love Him with all your heart. That will solve most of the problem you have with your quiet time. People who struggle to spend time with God don't have a scheduling problem; they have a love problem. (Henry Blackaby, *Experiencing God*)