

Prayer – Part II (Solid Food)



As I said in Spiritual Milk, prayer is communicating with the Lord (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) from your heart.

When a man communicates, there is a format he follows. When he picks up the phone, the first thing he will say is ‘Hello’, and when he finishes, he says ‘bye’. When he writes a letter, there is a format he follows which includes a reference no, date, to, address, reference topic, matter, signature, etc., depending on to whom or why he is writing the letter.

So also do prayers, and this format has been given to us by Lord Jesus in ‘Our Father’. A perfect prayer should try to follow the format below:

- a) Acknowledging God,
- b) Acknowledging His authority,
- c) Thanking Him,
- d) Praising Him,
- e) Humbling ourselves before Him,
- f) Acknowledging He provides our needs according to His will, for He knows best,
- g) Acknowledging He has forgiven us as we forgive others and lastly
- h) Believe that we have already received it, thus continue thanking Him.

Prayers are always answered by God only if the communication is clear. The communication gets disrupted when we do not keep His Word.

James 5:16

*¹³Is any one of you in trouble? He should pray. Is anyone happy? Let him sing songs of praise. ¹⁴Is any one of you sick? He should call the elders of the church to pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵And **the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise him up. If he has sinned, he will be forgiven. ¹⁶Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. **The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.*****

Psalm 34

*¹⁵ **The eyes of the LORD are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their cry;**
¹⁶ *the face of the LORD is against those who do evil, to cut off the memory of them from the earth.*
¹⁷ **The righteous cry out, and the LORD hears them; he delivers them from all their troubles.**
¹⁸ *The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.*
¹⁹ **A righteous man may have many troubles, but the LORD delivers him from them all;**
²⁰ **he protects all his bones, not one of them will be broken.***



*²¹ Evil will slay the wicked;
the foes of the righteous will be condemned.
²² The LORD redeems his servants;
no one will be condemned who takes refuge in him.*

Like the Lord showed me, since I am in the computer industry, prayer is like TCP/IP communication. We need to be in the same subnet mask to communicate. We have to be in righteous for God is righteous.

Psalm 118:19, 20 *‘Open for me the gates of righteousness; I will enter and give thanks to the LORD. This is the gate of the LORD through which the righteous may enter’.*

The subnet mask (window) here is narrow.

Matthew 7:13 *"Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it."*

TCP/IP is not just one protocol, but a bundle of protocols that work together, and they have a format too.

The communication happens like this. When a Server Host (God) is to be accessed for data (blessings), first, its record (God's Will) from the DNS Server (Word of God - Bible) is confirmed (when we pray with a scripture/promise, we are assured results). Then the client (human) searches for the presence of the Server Host. Once the presence is acknowledged, it sends a request, the Server Host answers the request and sends the data. The protocol to find presence in TCP/IP is the ICMP (Thanksgiving) protocol, then comes the UDP (praise), a broadcast protocol.

Psalm 100:4 *‘Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name’*

Even when the data is continually being sent, in between the client keeps sending acknowledgement requests to make sure the Server Host is present or still connected (worship) and after the data is sent again the ICMP protocol confirms the delivery. In case the IP of the client (human's spirit) is not in the same subnet mask as the Server Host then it requires a Gateway IP to route, Christ – for He said in

John 10:9 *‘I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. He will come in and go out, and find pasture.’*

The Lord Jesus Christ (He and His Spirit) are our eternal intercessor. He intercedes for us directly or through His Spirit; the Holy Spirit, since man is in sin and has not overcome it totally. It is only in the Day of the Lord that death will be defeated and man will be totally restored, free from sin. On the cross Jesus has already set the victory for us (mankind) in Spirit, we will only bring it into our personal lives. Therefore we will always need the Gateway (Lord Jesus Christ and His Spirit) to communicate to the Server Host.

Hebrews 7

²³Now there have been many of those priests, since death prevented them from continuing in office; ²⁴but because Jesus lives forever, he has a permanent priesthood. ²⁵Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them.

Romans 8

³²He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?

*³⁴Who is he that condemns? **Christ Jesus, who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.***

Isaiah 53:12

*Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and **made intercession for the transgressors***

Romans 8

*²⁶In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. ²⁷**And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God's will.***

We can also go via another gateway (Man or Woman of God), which will in turn connect to the main Host via the main Gateway (Christ). For this, the intermediate gateway should be alive. A dead gateway will not route the request. Even when a man or woman of God is asked to pray or intercede for another person, he should do so along with the Lord. Do not say 'I will pray' but say 'I will intercede with the Lord'.

1 Samuel 7:5

*Then Samuel said, "Assemble all Israel at Mizpah and **I will intercede with the LORD for you.**"*

1 Kings 13:6

*Then the king said to the man of God, "**Intercede with the LORD your God and pray for me that my hand may be restored.**" **So the man of God interceded with the LORD, and the king's hand was restored and became as it was before.***

The Greek word for 'intercede' speaks of throwing a javelin, keeping an eye on it till it hits its target. We are called to watch our prayer (not keep repeating it) till it comes to pass/receive it, or understanding the reason we did not. Till it is received/confirm we will not, we are expected to thanking Him in faith.

What I have found in life is that the prayers of the living are answered. Christ is living, so is His Spirit; a Man or Woman of God who is living, their prayers are immediately answered. Why then to knock on doors that are shut? (pray to the dead/asleep or ask them to intercede). Praying to the dead is mentioned in Maccabees (books of Apocrypha) as what they did (like they did idolatry) and not as what God has asked them to do.

One thing should be very clear that no one can go to the Father without Christ. He was the one who interceded at the start when mankind fell into sin, and even now He does so in front of God our Father, for it is God who is the source of all living and all things.

Why I recommend not praying through the dead is given in the parable that Jesus spoke in the Gospel according to Luke about the Rich man and Lazarus.

After the rich man had died and gone to hell, Lazarus went to the side/bosom of Abraham. The rich man was burning (inside) in hell and pleaded with Abraham for some relief via Lazarus. After being refused, he wanted to warn his brothers via Lazarus, but for this, too, Abraham refused.

Luke 16

²⁷"He answered, 'Then I beg you, father, send Lazarus to my father's house, ²⁸for I have five brothers. Let him warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment.'

²⁹"Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the Prophets; let them listen to them.'

³⁰" 'No, father Abraham,' he said, 'but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.'

*³¹"He said to him, '**If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.**' "*

God has strictly instructed us (humans) to not communicate with the dead (asleep) that is the reason why Jesus could do that (speak to spirit of Moses and Elijah) after He transfigured (took a spirit form like an Angel).

When Jesus was on earth, He always prayed to/communicated with the Father. He even told others to pray to the Father and showed them how to pray to the Father.

Matthew 6:6

*⁶But when you pray, go into your room, **close the door and pray to your Father**, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.*

Luke 6:12

*¹²One of those days Jesus went out to a mountainside to pray, and **spent the night praying to God.***

There is no scripture where Jesus said 'Pray to me'; He said 'When you pray to the Father in My name'. For He was the sacrifice or the ransom for our sins, and when we pray calling on the Name of 'Jesus', we are reminding God about the sacrifice of Jesus or the ransom that has already been paid.

John 14

*¹²I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³And **I will do whatever you ask in my name**, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. ¹⁴**You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.***

John 15

*¹⁶You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit—fruit that will last. **Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name.***

John 16

²³In that day you will no longer ask me anything. I tell you the truth, my Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. ²⁴Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete.

Why did Jesus not ask them to pray to Him even though He was Lord, the Son of God?

When Jesus was on earth, He was human and He knew that we should not pray to or worship any human, not even an Angel.

Revelation 19

⁹Then the angel said to me, "Write: 'Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!' " And he added, "These are the true words of God."

*¹⁰At this **I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, "Do not do it! I am a fellow servant with you and with your brothers who hold to the testimony of Jesus. **Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."*****

Revelation 20

*⁸I, John, am the one who heard and saw these things. And when I had heard and seen them, **I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel** who had been showing them to me. ⁹**But he said to me, "Do not do it! I am a fellow servant with you and with your brothers the prophets and of all who keep the words of this book. **Worship God!"*****

After His resurrection now that He is in Spirit, we can pray to Him - Lord Jesus Christ and not the man Jesus— note when He appeared to Paul, He did not appear in human form but as light, but to many others, even today He appears in human form, just because they Him more as a human (a super human) in their minds and thus limit Him in Spirit. When we pray to the Lord, He is God The Son; He and the Father cannot be distinguished as different.

I simply tell people when we have the Lord Jesus Christ (who is on the topmost post, for no one has seen the Father other than The Son, and is always there to intercede for us) why do we need to knock on other doors. The only requirement is change of heart, even if we have been a great sinner it does not matter. What matters is, is our heart ready to change and accept Him now? If so, then today is the day of our salvation and we will become (be considered) righteous by the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross and all our prayers will be answered.

Being righteous means, being right in the eyes of God. This means living our life and doing all things according to the Word of God. When we do not obey God and break His commandments God hides His face from us and does not answer our prayers.

Isaiah 59

¹ Surely the arm of the LORD is not too short to save, nor his ear too dull to hear.

*² **But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear.***

*³ **For your hands are stained with blood, your fingers with guilt. Your lips have spoken lies, and your tongue mutters wicked things.***

Isaiah 1

¹⁵ *When you spread out your hands in prayer, I will hide my eyes from you; even if you offer many prayers, I will not listen.*

Your hands are full of blood;

¹⁶ *wash and make yourselves clean.*

Take your evil deeds out of my sight!

Stop doing wrong,

¹⁷ *learn to do right!*

Seek justice, encourage the oppressed.

Defend the cause of the fatherless, plead the case of the widow.

Please do not do what the Jews did, they followed the Law of Moses to the letter but did not understand it in spirit. Those who follow the Word of God in physical and not in Spirit will have to endure it also in the physical. (Read Deuteronomy chp.28 blessings and curses.)

Galatians 2

¹⁶ *know that a man is not justified by observing the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by observing the law, because by observing the law no one will be justified.*

God does not answer prayers for many reasons, and all the reasons are written in the Bible. I will list below the reasons:

- ❖ When we do not help others who are unfortunate, according to the blessing that God has blessed us, then God also does not answer our prayers. These include the poor, the orphans, the widows, the sick, etc...

Proverbs 21:13

¹³ *If a man shuts his ears to the cry of the poor, he too will cry out and not be answered.*

- ❖ Men who are married and do not love their wives, their prayers are not answered (vice versa also applies).

Malachi 2

¹³ *Another thing you do: You flood the LORD's altar with tears. You weep and wail because he no longer pays attention to your offerings or accepts them with pleasure from your hands.*

¹⁴ *You ask, "Why?" It is because the LORD is acting as the witness between you and the wife of your youth, because you have broken faith with her, though she is your partner, the wife of your marriage covenant.*

- ❖ Prayers are also not answered if there is unforgiveness in our hearts.

Matthew 5

²³"Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, ²⁴leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift."

Mark 11

²⁵"And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive him, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins."

- ❖ When we have other gods in our lives, or make other things or people, kings of our lives, like our work, beauty, money, children, partner, power, etc. God does not answer our prayers. Like the Lord turned His face from the Israelites when they worshipped other gods, and when they wanted a man as king over them. Not only did God not hear their prayers for a long time, but He also delivered them into the hands of their enemy.
- ❖ God does not answer our prayers when we have pride in our hearts. In the parable given by Jesus in the Gospel according to Luke, He explained why the prayers of the Pharisee were not heard and that of the Publican (a tax collector) were heard.

Luke 18

¹⁰"Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹The Pharisee stood up and prayed about himself: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. ¹²I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.'

¹³"But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, 'God, have mercy on me, a sinner.'

¹⁴"I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

- ❖ God does not answer our prayers when we think we are wise in our hearts. When we reject the knowledge of God (Word of God), but dwell in the knowledge of this world.

Job 37

²³ The Almighty is beyond our reach and exalted in power; in his justice and great righteousness, he does not oppress.

²⁴ Therefore, men revere him, for does he not have regard for all the wise in heart?

Hosea 4:6

⁶ my people are destroyed from lack of knowledge. "Because you have rejected knowledge, I also reject you as my priests; because you have ignored the law of your God, I also will ignore your children."

- ❖ God does not answer our prayers when we do not have the fear of the Lord, and cherish sin in our hearts.

Psalm 66

¹⁶ Come and listen, all you who fear God; let me tell you what he has done for me.

¹⁷ I cried out to him with my mouth; his praise was on my tongue.

¹⁸ If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened;

¹⁹ but God has surely listened and heard my voice in prayer.

- ❖ God does not answer our prayers when we ask of Him things out of the lust of our flesh, things for the pleasure of the body, but which harm our spirit, and things that harm others

James 4

²You want something but don't get it. You kill and covet, but you cannot have what you want. You quarrel and fight. You do not have, because you do not ask God. ³When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.

Matthew 6

¹⁹"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. ²⁰But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Matthew 7

⁹"Which of you, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? ¹⁰Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? ¹¹If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!

There have been a few questions that people normally have in their hearts but don't bring to their tongue. Why are the prayers of some answered immediately and of others, after a long time? Why is it sometimes we need to get together and pray, and sometimes even when we pray alone, our prayers are answered?

The Lord explained this to me in a very beautiful way, according to my understanding. Let me try and put it to you in a simple way. The transactions in the Spiritual world (Kingdom of God) are like the transactions that happen in our banking world; here, there is no money, but something similar to money. The principle of banking in the Spiritual world is not based on interest, like in our world, but on mercy. Some part of this is revealed in the parable that Jesus said in the Gospel according to Luke.

Luke 19

¹²He said: "A man of noble birth went to a distant country to have himself appointed king and then to return. ¹³So he called ten of his servants and gave them ten minas. 'Put this money to work,' he said, 'until I come back.'

¹⁴"But his subjects hated him and sent a delegation after him to say, 'We don't want this man to be our king.'

¹⁵"He was made king, however, and returned home. Then he sent for the servants to whom he had given the money, in order to find out what they had gained with it.

¹⁶"The first one came and said, 'Sir, your mina has earned ten more.'

¹⁷" 'Well done, my good servant!' his master replied. 'Because you have been trustworthy in a very small matter, take charge of ten cities.'

¹⁸"The second came and said, 'Sir, your mina has earned five more.'

¹⁹"His master answered, 'You take charge of five cities.'

²⁰"Then another servant came and said, 'Sir, here is your mina; I have kept it laid away in a piece of cloth. ²¹I was afraid of you, because you are a hard man. You take out what you did not put in and reap what you did not sow.'

²²"His master replied, 'I will judge you by your own words, you wicked servant! You knew, did you, that I am a hard man, taking out what I did not put in, and reaping what I did not sow?'

²³Why then didn't you put my money on deposit, so that when I came back, I could have collected it with interest?'

²⁴"Then he said to those standing by, 'Take his mina away from him and give it to the one who has ten minas.'

²⁵" 'Sir,' they said, 'he already has ten!'

²⁶"He replied, 'I tell you that to everyone who has, more will be given, but as for the one who has nothing, even what he has will be taken away. ²⁷But those enemies of mine who did not want me to be king over them—bring them here and kill them in front of me.'

Let me try and explain this to you. We all who are the children of God have a bank account in the Kingdom of God (heaven). In our account, God makes an initial deposit on our behalf (like when we were small, our earthly fathers did for us), and this deposit varies from person to person according to the job ahead of him or her.

Philippians 4 [KJV]

*¹⁷Not because I desire a gift: but **I desire fruit that may abound to your account.***

*¹⁹**But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.***

The money here is blessings that come from the good works that we do.

Acts 10

⁴Cornelius stared at him in fear. "What is it, Lord?" he asked.

*The angel answered, "**Your prayers and gifts to the poor have come up as a memorial offering before God.**"*

This does not mean only charity, but more over from works that we do in saving souls too. We may sow the seeds and another harvest but we do get our equity in the harvest.

John 4 [KJV]

*³⁷And herein is that saying true, **One soweth, and another reapeth.***

*³⁸**I sent you to reap that whereon ye bestowed no labour: other men laboured, and ye are entered into their labours.***

We can also add to our deposit when we labor in looking after others (like the sick, old, destitute etc.), when we fast and pray selflessly and when someone blesses us. We also add to this account in small amounts when we praise and worship God.

Whatever we do it should not be with the intentions of getting rewarded here by the praises of people.



If we get our reward from people then we do not add to our account in heaven.

Matthew 6

²"So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by men. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full. ³But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

Now there is one rule that applies here unlike in our earthly banking world. Whenever a deposit is made by us here, God on His behalf adds not just a similar amount, but in multiples of it in your account (principal of mercy - the multiples varies for person to person and this too is done justly).

Exodus 33

*¹⁹ And the LORD said, "I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim my name, the LORD, in your presence. **I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion.***

1 Timothy 1

*¹²I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength, that he considered me faithful, appointing me to his service. ¹³**Even though I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent man, I was shown mercy because I acted in ignorance and unbelief. ¹⁴The grace of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.***

Job 9

*¹⁴ "How then can I dispute with him?
How can I find words to argue with him?
¹⁵ **Though I were innocent, I could not answer him; I could only plead with my Judge for mercy.**
¹⁶ Even if I summoned him and he responded,
I do not believe he would give me a hearing.
¹⁷ **He would crush me with a storm and multiply my wounds for no reason.***

Whenever we pray and ask God for anything, we withdraw from this account. The withdrawal is according to the request. If we do not have that balance, we make a joint withdrawal from many accounts to get our request when we pray together with others. After the request if the person or persons benefit and thank God or bless us, a deposit is made into the account/s from which the withdrawals had been made. When the deposits are made, God, according to His mercy principle, adds the multiples along with them. Therefore, the more you do God's work (without self-interest), the more is deposited in your account. Withdrawals are also made from this account for Angelic protection. We can also transfer from our account to another person's account for a job, if it has been utilized well then we too benefit from that transaction (interceding for others).

Keeping an account not used for a long time may invite negative interest. We do not do any efforts on increasing our deposit, then possibly one day whatever we have in our account will be transferred to someone who is doing a very good job. When we offend God by worshiping other gods an amount is removed from not only our account but also from the accounts of our four generations, but when we please God by keeping His commandments regular bonus amounts are added not only to our account but also to the accounts of our thousand generations (like pension or Life Insurance Policies but here the returns start immediately and continue even after our death to our generations).

Exodus 20

⁵ You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, ⁶ but showing love to a thousand {generations} of those who love me and keep my commandments.

These regular incomes due to us for many reasons are diverted to unbelievers when we do not keep the Word of God (We normally wonder why the unbelievers are blessed so much? They should thank us, and not their gods for their gods are none existent.)

Deuteronomy 28

¹⁵ However, if you do not obey the LORD your God and do not carefully follow all his commands and decrees I am giving you today, all these curses will come upon you and overtake you:

⁴³ The alien who lives among you will rise above you higher and higher, but you will sink lower and lower.

⁴⁴ He will lend to you, but you will not lend to him. He will be the head, but you will be the tail.

So go do God's work of spreading His Good News, of winning hearts for God, of looking after His people, praying for others etc. regularly. And then whenever you pray for anything (according to God's will) however big it may be, then our prayers will be answered instantly.

Another way of adding in your account other than sowing, or praying is also by suffering. There the amounts are small and therefore take time. This is for this reason that God answered the call of the Israelites after a very long time when they were in slavery under the Egyptians. For they had stopped worshiping God and went after other gods.

Exodus 1

⁸ Then a new king, who did not know about Joseph, came to power in Egypt. ⁹ "Look," he said to his people, "the Israelites have become much too numerous for us. ¹⁰ Come, we must deal shrewdly with them or they will become even more numerous and, if war breaks out, will join our enemies, fight against us and leave the country."

¹¹ So they put slave masters over them to oppress them with forced labor, and they built Pithom and Rameses as store cities for Pharaoh. ¹² But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread; so the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites ¹³ and worked them ruthlessly. ¹⁴ They made their lives bitter with hard labor in brick and mortar and with all kinds of work in the fields; in all their hard labor the Egyptians used them ruthlessly.

Exodus 2

²³ During that long period, (about 400 years) the king of Egypt died. The Israelites groaned in their slavery and cried out, and their cry for help because of their slavery went up to God.

So we have an option to fill our account by doing God's work, worshipping Him, keeping His Word etc... or by suffering over a long period of time and then having our prayers answered by God.

I am telling you this not that you do the Lord's work and pray thinking about your account, but only that you are aware of such a system and do not stay poor in Spirit. So do not think of all the riches you have in this world but think if you are rich in the Kingdom of God.

God Bless