

“The School of Prayer”

- I. What is prayer?

“Prayer is the opening of the heart to God as to a friend. Not that it is necessary, in order to make known to God what we are, but in order to enable us to receive Him. Prayer does not bring God down to us, but brings us up to Him.” *Steps to Christ, page 93*
- II. Why should we pray?
 - A. “...prayer is the key in the hand of faith to unlock heaven’s storehouse...” *Steps to Christ, page 94*
 - B. The amazing promise of Mark 11:24
- III. Why is it helpful to think of a school of prayer?
 - A. The need for discipline and perseverance.
- IV. When should we pray?
 - A. Psalm 16:8 says that we should set the Lord always before us and then we will not be moved.
 - B. “Unceasing prayer is the unbroken union of the soul with God, so that life from God flows into our life; and from our life, purity and holiness flow back to God.” *Steps to Christ, page 98*
- V. How should we pray?
 - A. We should not do all the talking but wait for God to speak to us.
 - B. We should take time to praise God. “If we would but think of God as often as we have evidence of His care for us, we should keep Him ever in our thoughts, and should delight to talk of Him and to praise Him.” *Steps to Christ, page 102*
 - C. It is not all about us. It is about Him and His kingdom. (The Lord’s Prayer)
- VI. Where to pray? Private and public.
- VII. Pray over Scripture. Psalm 119:11
- VIII. Prayer and Facebook.
 - A. Make lots of friends.
 - B. Always acknowledge their birthday.
 - C. Show that you care.
- IX. Start a prayer list and keep adding to it.
- X. Pray for our family.
 - A. “Church is not a place where we go, it is a family that we belong to.”
 - B. What is the meaning of Isaiah 56:7? What is a house of prayer for all people? Pray through our membership list. Call them and tell them that you are praying for them. “What would you like me to pray for?”