

## “When You Pray”

Zoe Christian Fellowship of Whittier  
Bishop Edward A. Smith  
Dr. Joshua Smith, Pastor

### *INTRODUCTION TO LESSON*

**Life Group Lesson Objective:** Understanding the Words of Jesus when he taught “When You Pray”.

### **Life Group Leader Lesson Preparation:**

#### **Jesus preparing his disciples for prayer when he leaves the earth.**

Luke 11:1-13 – A disciple of Jesus wanted to know how to pray, he said John (the Baptist) taught his disciples to pray, but I want you to teach us to pray.

- He taught them to say....to verbalize, to open their mouth and say, not to be silent about praying.
- To ask, be persistent
- For EVERYONE that asks receives

John 16:23 – Jesus taught them “**in that day**”, ye shall ask me nothing,

- [but] whatsoever you shall ASK THE FATHER in my name...
- Hitherto (until now, before this time) you have asked nothing in my name: ask and ye shall receive.

Jesus taught his disciples in that day, the day when he is no longer with them, after his death and resurrection. This is the way we should pray.

***COACH: Ask each life group member to share in their own words how the scripture for the week could be applied to their life...***

- "WHEN YOU PRAY..." Luke 11:1-13 AND Matthew 6: 9-15

When You Pray... – March 2021

**Jesus taught “when you pray”: say to the Father (God) in his (Jesus) name.**

Jesus’ teaching assumes WE WILL BE PRAYING!

**WEEK 1 – Power in Jesus’ Name – When You Pray**

Discussion Question: What can we learn from the disciples experiences when they used the name of Jesus?

**JESUS TAUGHT**

- John 16:23 – Ask the Father in my name
- We don’t ask Jesus, we ask in His name
- In that day –
  - Day of the new covenant, new testament

**At The Hour of Prayer – with Peter and John**

- Acts 3:1-9 How the Lame man was healed
  - vs 12 – not by man’s power or holiness
  - vs 16 - ...And his name through Faith in His name hath made this man strong, and has given him perfect soundness.

**When we pray, we must use the name of Jesus and have faith in his name, which is our key to answered prayer.**

- Acts 4:1-10: by the name of Jesus Christ this man stands here whole.
  - Acts 4:17-20 – Peter & John told not to speak or teach in Jesus name
- Acts 4:24, 29-31: Disciples prayed with one accord for boldness and that signs and wonders would be done by the name of Jesus

**Let’s be honest – Discussion Question: (Read Acts 19:11-16) – Discuss why the seven sons of Sceva, Jewish exorcists could not cast out the demons even though they used the name of Jesus?**

**Was it a lack of their faith? Does the name of Jesus only work sometime?**

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**Week #2 – When You Pray...Believe You Receive**

Group Discussion Questions: If I am new Christian, will my prayers be answered without faith?

Mark 11:22-26

- Vs 23- Whosoever....and whatsoever

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- vs 24 – Whatsoever things you desire “WHEN YOU PRAY” believe you receive them.
  - When you pray, at the time you pray
    - Not before you pray
    - Not after you pray
    - WHEN YOU PRAY – at the time you pray, believe you receive, and you shall have.

It’s a total waste of time and energy to pray and not believe!

If you believe you receive WHEN YOU PRAY, you won’t have to pray anymore about it.

- Now you Praise God for the answer
- Thank God for the answer

Mark 9:23 – Jesus said unto him, if thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth

GROUP INTERACTION

*Life Group Leader:* (prepare in advance) Give a personal testimony of “believing you received” WHEN YOU PRAYED, or have someone in the group give a personal example.

.....AND

**Mark 11:25-26 When You (Stand) Praying – Forgive If You have aught against any:**

1. If you have anything against anyone forgive him (AMP)
  - Drop it let it go
2. First forgive anyone you are holding a grudge against (TLB)
3. If you hold anything against anyone, forgive them (NIV)

When you pray: Aught – works against your prayer, stops your faith from working

- Animosity, jealous, ill will
- Anything: big or little

Close the door to the devil - Jas 4:7 – resist the devil and he will flee from you

- But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;

**Let’s be honest - Discussion Question:** “ I prayed and my answer or desire didn’t happen. Talk about why? Is it my Faith? is it my love walk? Is it God’s will for me?

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### **Week #3 – Depend On the Holy Spirit – Our Helper, in praying daily**

Group Discussion Questions: Jesus said “Let not your hearts be troubled...what are ways the Holy Spirit can help us to not to be troubled when we pray?”

John 14:16 Jesus said I will send you another comforter that he may abide with you forever.

- The Holy Spirit is called alongside to help us.
  - Jesus left the earth
  - The Holy Spirit, (another comforter) is in the earth abiding in each believer

Luke 11:11-13 Jesus says if we ask the Father for the Holy Spirit (in prayer), He will give the Holy Spirit to them that ask.

Rom 8:26 He makes intercession for us

I Cor 14:14 My spirit prays by the Holy Spirit (Amp)

He will help us when we pray.

The Father, Son and Holy Spirit agree when we pray the Word of God, so we pray the scriptures:

- We have to study and meditate on the Word so the Holy Spirit (our helper) can bring the Word we studied and meditated to our remembrance.
- The Helper will cause us to remember what we studied and meditated on.

But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

John 14:26 (KJV)

What Happens When We Pray the Word?

Jer 1:12 – God watches over His word to perform it

Ps 103:20 – Angels who excel in strength, hearken to the voice of His word.

The Holy Spirit knows what needs to be done, let him help you “when you pray”.

**Let's be honest - Discussion Question: *What are some common obstacles to praying daily? And how can you personally overcome these obstacles?***

### **Week #4 – Take Time to Build Yourself Up – When You Pray**

Group Discussion Questions: - Are you taking time to build yourself up daily by praying the spirit?

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He who speaks in a [strange] tongue edifies *and* improves himself, but he who prophesies [interpreting the divine will and purpose and teaching with inspiration] edifies *and* improves the church *and* promotes growth [in Christian wisdom, piety, holiness, and happiness].

I Cor 14:4 (AMP)

But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, -  
Jude 1:20

Praying in the Holy Ghost (Tongues)

- Acts 10:44-46
  - Initial evidence (they heard them speak with tongues)
- Rom 8:26
  - Helps you pray for things you don't know about
- The Holy Spirit is an intercessor (God is looking for someone to stand in the gap, make up the hedge. (He lives in us to intercede through us))
  - And I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none. – Ezek 22:30
  - Run ye to and fro through the streets of Jerusalem, and see now, and know, and seek in the broad places thereof, if ye can find a man, if there be any that executeth judgment, that seeketh the truth; and I will pardon it. Jer 5:1
  - Therefore, he said that he would destroy them, had not Moses his chosen stood before him in the breach, to turn away his wrath, lest he should destroy them. Psalm 106:23

**Let's be honest - Discussion Question:** *How has this lesson helped you to have a clear vision on how to apply to this lesson to your daily life?*

*What steps will you take to share this lesson with others to help change their lives for God's Kingdom purpose?*