WHAT IT MEANS TO PRAY

To pray = to ask, petition, talk with God.

Something accomplished by prayer not otherwise done.

I. MECHANICS OF A GOOD PRAYER:

a. To God — Matt. 6:6, 9.

b. In Name of Christ — John 14:13 — "Ask in my name, I do it."

c. Ask — it be given you.

Confess — your faults one to another.

Thanksgiving — for all blessings.

Supplication — on behalf of others.

d. Loud — so others may say Amen. Common fault.

1 Cor. 14:15 — pray with spirit & truth.

Form prayers.

If use Thou, Thee, Thy, Thine — use properly.

I'm not on God's plane — thou helps me remember.
I not talking to another human.

IF GOD IS NOT FIRST in our thoughts in the morning, He will be last in our thoughts all day.

II. WE MUST HAVE FAITH:

James 1:6 — "But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering: for he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed."

Matt. 21:22 — "And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive."

Mark 11:24 — believing ye receive — ye shall have them.

Degrees of Faith:

1. Intellectual acceptance
2. Trust
3. Investment
4. Surrender

Faith invests self in what it believes.

God is in you, dwells with you forever — John 14:16–17.

Heb. 4:16 — come boldly to throne of grace — obtain mercy & find grace to help in time of need.

III. FERVENT PRAYER AVAILS MUCH

James 5:16 — "Confess your faults one to another and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."

Elijah — James 5:17 — prayed no rain 3 yrs. 6 mo.; prayed, rained — fruit.

1 Pet. 3:12 — "For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil."

James 5:14–15 — sick call elders, pray, anoint.

1 Samuel 1 — Hannah — prayed & given Samuel.

II Kings 20 — Hezekiah's prayer — life — 15 yrs. more.

II Thess. 3:1–2 — "Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have free course, and be glorified, even as it is with you: And that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men: for all men have not faith."

I Thess. 5:17 — "Pray without ceasing."

Song: PRAY ALL THE TIME.

IV. DO NOT LIMIT GOD:

Not tell Lord how answer.

Romans 8:26 — "Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered."

BLOOD SPILLED ON CALVARY.

“Bless means being used—” Let’s ask Lord to heal…

“If we have been found faithful—give us home”
better—help us to be faithful so we may have home…

Not repeat phrases we have heard that have no meaning to us.

PRAYER EXPRESSES HEART’S DESIRE.

BE A CHRISTIAN TO PRAY — OUR FATHER.

Romans 10:1 — “Brethren, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be…”