

Prayer

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1. Should we ever stop praying for something or someone

- Scripture is conclusive on this - **1 Thessalonians 5:17**
- There isn't anything that we can't or shouldn't pray about
- Paul prayed for the Church in Colossae without ceasing – Colossians 1:9
- Paul does this again in - Romans 1:9
- Pray without ceasing – a continual state of prayer
- This is like depending on God like we depend on breathing
- One other thing that we can learn from this is we never give up on prayer
- So should we ever stop praying, **NO!**

2. What if I am “giving it to God”, can I then stop praying?

- Sometimes praying about an anxious situation can make you anxious
- For some people to thinking about a topic can make them anxious
- Can you in certain situations stop praying and “give it to God”?
- Paul would disagree with this logic
- I would say it's a separate issue
- You shouldn't be anxious because God provides – **Philippians 4:6**

3. What to do if You don't know what to say?

- In a tragic event or a crisis situation you often can't even form words
- It's good that God knows the heart for those hard times – 1 Samuel 16:7
- God knows the heart and intentions behind prayer – Romans 8:26
- Often times this is used as a reason to not pray
- I would say it's a reason that you should pray
- This in time will get easier and prayer will come more naturally
- We continue to pray through all seasons of life
- There is always something to be thankful for, something you're going through or something coming up
- This isn't to mention other people that we can be praying for

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4. Is it acceptable to repeatedly pray for the same thing, or should we only ask once?

- A lot of times we don't get the answer that we would want in our timing
- A lot of times its not in a way that we would think
- There is a perseverance that is needed in prayer – Acts 6:4
- To get through the hard times and to continue to follow the Lord we need to repeatedly pray
- It might take moments, days, months, years, decades or it might not happen
- We still make our requests known to God – Nehemiah 4:9
- You should always keep on praying – Psalm 5:3

5. How can I be sure I am praying according to the will of God?

- You can break Gods will up into two different things
- Gods general will and Gods specific will
- Gods general will He has not hidden this from us - **2 Thessalonians 4:2**
- Scripture tells us Gods general will for us
- Gods specific will is what is not spelled out in scripture
- Scripture doesn't tell you who you may marry or what job will you have
- How do you determine what God specific will is for your life
- 1st, you pray and seek the Lord. Everything should start and continue in prayer
- 2nd, You should look at the ways in God has designed you
- We all have different spiritual gifts and interests – 1 Corinthians 12:1-11
- Often times what God specifically wants for your life will fall into place
- When he wants you to know, he will make it known in His timing
- In the mean time we pray and faithful follow him – Jude 20
- So how to be sure you are praying Gods will?
- If its contrary to scripture it's **NOT** Gods will

“When you have a definite promise in God's word you don't have to put any ifs before it.” – R.A. Torey