

The Privilege of Prayer

“I call to you, LORD, come quickly to me;
hear me when I call to you.

May my prayer be set before you like incense;
may the lifting up of my hands be like the evening sacrifice.” Psalm 141:1-2 (NIV)

1.) Prayer is an Act of Worship (Psalm 141:2).

- Worshipful prayer must be sincere.

“And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. But 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. And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words.” Matthew 6:5-7

2.) Prayer is an Act of Trust (Phil 4:6).

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.” Philippians 4:6

- a. Trust based on God’s character not on circumstances.

“When I am afraid, I put my trust in you.” Psalm 56:3

3.) Prayer is an Act of Surrender (Isaiah 64:8).

“Yet you, LORD, are our Father.
We are the clay, you are the potter;
we are all the work of your hand.” Isaiah 64:8

- a. We bend to God’s will he doesn’t bend to ours.

“When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.” James 4:3

“Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done.”
Luke 22:42