

THE PURPOSE OF PRAYER

Growing Deep – Part 2

September 21, 2008

John 15

1. PRAYER IS AN ACT OF DEDICATION.

*"I am the vine: you are the branches. If a man remains in Me and I in him, he will bear much fruit: apart from me you can do nothing. If anyone does not remain in Me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. If you remain in Me and My words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you."
John 15:5-7 (NIV)*

2. PRAYER IS AN ACT OF COMMUNICATION

"I no longer call you servants, because a master doesn't confide in his servants. Now you are my friends... You didn't choose Me. I chose you. I appointed you to go and produce fruit that will last so that the Father will give you whatever you ask for, using My name." John 15:15-16 (NLT)

■ **Be REAL (Matthew 6:5)**

■ **Be RELAXED (Matthew 6:6)**

■ **Be REVEALING (Matthew 6: 7-8)**

3. PRAYER IS AN ACT OF SUPPLICATION

"Don't be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:6-7 (NIV)

"If you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him." Luke 11:13 (NLT)

4. PRAYER IS AN ACT OF COOPERATION

"And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. You may ask me for anything in My name and I will do it." John 14:13-14 (NIV)

AN ACROSTIC FOR PRAYER

Matthew 6: 9-15

CONFESSION

“Forgive us our debts, as we have forgiven our debtors.” Matthew 6:12 (NIV)

“For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.” Matthew 6:14 (NIV)

ADORATION

*“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name...”
Matthew 6:9 (NIV)*

SUPPLICATION

“Give us today our daily bread.” Matthew 6:11 (NIV)

THANKSGIVING

*“Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise. Be thankful unto Him, and bless His name.”
Psalm 100:4 (NIV)*