

“Learning to Talk with God”
Week #2: “A Biblical Outline for Prayer”
Faith Bible Church
www.fbcsterling.org
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Nehemiah 1:1-11 (*New American Standard*)

¹ The words of Nehemiah the son of Hacaliah. Now it happened in the month Chislew, in the twentieth year, while I was in Susa the capitol, ² that Hanani, one of my brothers, and some men from Judah came; and I asked them concerning the Jews who had escaped and had survived the captivity, and about Jerusalem. ³ And they said to me, "The remnant there in the province who survived the captivity are in great distress and reproach, and the wall of Jerusalem is broken down and its gates are burned with fire." ⁴ Now it came about when I heard these words, I sat down and wept and mourned for days; and I was fasting and praying before the God of heaven. ⁵ And I said, "I beseech Thee, O Lord God of heaven, the great and awesome God, who preserves the covenant and lovingkindness for those who love Him and keep His commandments, ⁶ let Thine ear now be attentive and Thine eyes open to hear the prayer of Thy servant which I am praying before Thee now, day and night, on behalf of the sons of Israel Thy servants, confessing the sins of the sons of Israel which we have sinned against Thee; I and my father's house have sinned. ⁷ We have acted very corruptly against Thee and have not kept the commandments, nor the statutes, nor the ordinances which Thou didst command Thy servant Moses. ⁸ Remember the word which Thou didst command Thy servant Moses, saying, 'If you are unfaithful I will scatter you among the peoples; ⁹ but if you return to Me and keep My commandments and do them, though those of you who have been scattered were in the most remote part of the heavens, I will gather them from there and will bring them to the place where I have chosen to cause My name to dwell.' ¹⁰ "And they are Thy servants and Thy people whom Thou didst redeem by Thy great power and by Thy strong hand. ¹¹ O Lord, I beseech Thee, may Thine ear be attentive to the prayer of Thy servant and the prayer of Thy servants who delight to revere Thy name, and make Thy servant successful today, and grant him compassion before this man." Now I was the cupbearer to the king.

FOUR CRITICAL ELEMENTS OF PRAYER:

I. _____
Behold, the Lord's hand is not so short that it cannot save; neither is His ear so dull that it cannot hear. But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He does not hear. *Isa 59:1-2*

If I regard wickedness in my heart, the Lord will not hear; *Ps 66:18*

The Lord is far from the wicked, but He hears the prayer of the righteous. *Prov 15:29*

Then they will cry out to the Lord, but He will not answer them. Instead, He will hide His face from them at that time, because they have practiced evil deeds. *Mic 3:4*

Be gracious to me, O God, according to Thy lovingkindness; according to the greatness of Thy compassion blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against Thee, Thee only, I have sinned, and done what is evil in Thy sight, so that Thou art justified when Thou dost speak, and blameless when Thou dost judge. *Ps 51:1-4*

(If) My people who are called by My name humble themselves and pray, and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, will forgive their sin, and will heal their land. *2 Chron 7:14-15*

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *1 John 1:9*

II. _____

Then He said, "Do not come near here; remove your sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." *Ex 3:5*

But when Simon Peter saw that, he fell down at Jesus' feet, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!" *Luke 5:8*

And one called out to another and said, "Holy, Holy, Holy, is the Lord of hosts, the whole earth is full of His glory. *Isa 6:3*

"Worthy art Thou, our Lord and our God, to receive glory and honor and power; for Thou didst create all things, and because of Thy will they existed, and were created." *Rev 4:11*

III. _____

Praise the Lord! I will give thanks to the Lord with all my heart, in the company of the upright and in the assembly. *Ps 111:1*

It is good to give thanks to the Lord, and to sing praises to Thy name, O Most High; *Ps 92:1*

I will give thanks to the Lord according to His righteousness, and will sing praise to the name of the Lord Most High. *Ps 7:17*

I will give thanks to the Lord with all my heart; I will tell of all Thy wonders. I will be glad and exult in Thee; I will sing praise to Thy name, O Most High. *Ps 9:1-2*

Therefore I will give thanks to Thee among the nations, O Lord, and I will sing praises to Thy name. *Ps 18:49*

Praise the Lord! Oh give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; for His lovingkindness is everlasting. *Ps 106:1*

It is good to give thanks to the Lord, and to sing praises to Thy name, O Most High; to declare Thy lovingkindness in the morning, and Thy faithfulness by night, *Ps 92:1-2*

IV. _____

So Peter was kept in the prison, but prayer for him was being made fervently by the church to God. *Acts 12:5*

If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it shall be done for you. *John 15:7-8*

And this is the confidence which we have before Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests which we have asked from Him. *1 John 5:14-15*