

The Posture of Prayer  
Psalm 32

Review:

1. We must pray with expectation, believing God's promises to welcome those who trust in Him
2. Our prayers must include confession, looking to the blood of Christ to wash us clean of our sin
3. We must pray with trust that God will save us and protect us
4. We must pray believing God's promises to make us wise and prudent, to teach us, and to guide our steps

Reflect:

1. What are the barriers that hinder your prayer life? What can you do to overcome these obstacles?

Go Further: Read Luke 11:1-13

1. What is Jesus doing at the beginning of verse 1?
2. What did Jesus' disciples ask Him to do? What do we call the model of prayer that Jesus gave them?
3. How does Jesus tell us to address God in prayer? Why is it important to us that God is in heaven?
4. What is the first request of God Jesus tells us to make in verse 2?
5. Instead of asking God for what we want in verse 2, Whose will does Jesus say we should prefer?
6. What does Jesus tell us to ask for in verse 3?
7. What two requests about forgiveness do we find in verse 4?
8. What does Jesus teach us to pray about the temptations and dangers we find in life?
9. What is the reason Jesus gives in verses 5 and 6 for the man going to wake up his friend at midnight?
10. What excuse does the man in bed give for not wanting to get up and help his friend?
11. Why does Jesus say the man in bed will eventually get up?
12. What three things does Jesus urge us to do in verse 9?
13. What three promises does Jesus make in verse 10?
14. In verses 11 and 12, what three requests does Jesus say children make of their earthly fathers? What does He say those fathers will not give to their children?
15. What does Jesus promise that God will give us in verse 13? To whom will this Gift come?

Apply:

1. What does the order of the requests in the Lord's prayer tell us about the priorities we should have?
2. Why do you think Jesus tells us simply to ask for what we need each day (v. 3)? How would such a prayer increase our dependence on and trust in God?
3. Hospitality was central to Ancient Near Eastern culture, so having some food for a traveler was an urgent need. What urgent needs have you brought before the Lord in prayer? How has God answered your prayers?
4. In the original Greek, each one of the verbs in verse 9 expresses continual, repeated action. Why is it important for us to keep on asking, seeking, and knocking? How does such persistent prayer express our faith in God?
5. How do the promises Jesus makes in verse 10 inspire you to be more persistent in prayer?