

# DIAMOND INSTITUTE

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Year 1 – Winter Semester  
Course – Prevailing Prayer  
Session 5  
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## SESSION 5 – GOD’S INVITATION TO APPROACH HIS THRONE

### INTRODUCTION

Today, many Christians are defeated in their prayer lives. The reasons are numerous: Wrong teaching on prayer, no teaching on prayer, unbelief, an incorrect image of God, feeling unworthy, sinful and guilty are some of the primary reasons. In this session, we will address these issues by learning what the Bible says about approaching God in prayer.

#### 1. OUR INVITATION TO APPROACH THE FATHER IN PRAYER BOLDLY

Hebrews 4:14-16 Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast *our* confession. <sup>15</sup> For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all *points* tempted as *we are*, yet without sin. <sup>16</sup> Let us therefore come \_\_\_\_\_ to the throne of \_\_\_\_\_, that we may obtain \_\_\_\_\_ and find grace to help in time of need.

**Mercy = God’s forgiveness and cleansing through confession of sin and repentance.**

Ref; 1 John 1:9, Luke 15:11-32, 18:9-14, John 8:3-11

**2 Chronicles 7:14** if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and \_\_\_\_\_ from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

**Grace = God’s ability to strengthen you not to sin and live godly**

Ref; Romans 6:14, 2 Cor. 1:12, Titus 2:11, Hebrews 12:28, 2 Peter 3:18, Jude 24

Matthew 26:40-42 Then He came to the disciples and found them sleeping, and said to Peter, “What! Could you not watch with Me one hour? <sup>41</sup> Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed *is* willing, but the flesh *is* weak.” <sup>42</sup> Again, a second time, He went away and prayed, saying, “O My Father, if this cup cannot pass away from Me unless I drink it, Your will be done.”

Luke 22:43 Then an angel appeared to Him from heaven, \_\_\_\_\_ Him.

James 4:6-7 But He gives more grace. Therefore He says: “ *God resists the proud, but gives grace to the \_\_\_\_\_.*” <sup>7</sup> Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

## 2. THE NEW AND LIVING WAY TO APPROACH THE FATHER

In the Old Testament everyone was welcome to enter into the outer court to pray. However the inner court known as the holy place was reserved only for the Levites and Priests and the Holy of Holies was only accessible by the High Priest once a year to atone for the sins of Israel. In the New Testament however, Jesus Christ became the perfect sacrifice to redeem us from our sins once for all and serves as our High Priest right \_\_\_\_\_ in Heaven.

By faith in Jesus blood, all believers can enter into the very presence of God our Father through prayer daily!

Hebrews 10:19-20 Therefore, brethren, having boldness to \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ by the blood of Jesus,<sup>20</sup> by a new and \_\_\_\_\_ way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh,

## 3. THE VEIL OF SEPERATION HAS BEEN TORN BY JESUS SACRIFICE



**Veil:** The name given to the two curtains in the temple at Jerusalem. One of them at the entrance to the temple separated the Holy Place from the outer court, the other veiled the Holy of Holies from the Holy Place. (Blue Letter Bible)

(b) of the corresponding "veil" in the Temple, [Mat 27:51](#); [Mar 15:38](#); [Luk 23:45](#);

(c) metaphorically of the "flesh" of Christ, [Hbr 10:20](#), i.e., His body which He gave up to be crucified, thus by His expiatory death providing a means of the spiritual access of believers, the "new and living way," into the presence of God. (Vines)

Hebrews 10:21-23 and *having* a High Priest over the house of God,<sup>22</sup> let \_\_\_\_\_ draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.<sup>23</sup> Let us hold fast the confession of *our* hope without wavering, for He who promised *is* faithful.

God has torn the veil of separation between the holy place and the holy of holies. This means we no longer approach God through the physical temple but now through the blood of Jesus Christ, the blood of the New Covenant, we are able to enter the Holy of Holies or the place where God's presence is by faith in prayer at any time we chose because He has removed our sins and given to us Jesus righteousness! Ref; 2 Cor. 5:21 The Father sees every one of His Children through His Son, Jesus Christ: Reconciled, Holy, Faultless and Irreproachable before His presence! Accept this truth by faith! Ref; Col. 1:20-21

#### 4. WE ARE NOW ABLE TO WORSHIP GOD IN THE SPIRIT

John 4:19-24 The woman said to Him, “Sir, I perceive that You are a prophet.”<sup>20</sup> Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, and you *Jews* say that in Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.”<sup>21</sup> Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father.”<sup>22</sup> You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship, for salvation is of the Jews.<sup>23</sup> But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him.<sup>24</sup> *God is Spirit*, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”

Jesus made three points about correct worship:

- Know who you worship – The God of \_\_\_\_\_, the God revealed to the Jews.
- Worship in Spirit – Your born again spirit communing with the Father by the Holy Spirit.
- Worship in Truth – Worship God with a pure heart in faith.

Ephesians 2:18 For it is through Him that we both [whether far off or near] now have an introduction (access) by one [Holy] Spirit to the Father [so that we are able to approach Him].  
Amplified

#### 5. EFFECTIVE PRAYER MUST BE BY FAITH ACKNOWLEDGING GOD

Hebrews 11:6 But without \_\_\_\_\_ *it is* impossible to please *Him*, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and *that* He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

Jeremiah 29:12-13 Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you.  
<sup>13</sup> And you will seek Me and find *Me*, when you search for Me with all your \_\_\_\_\_.

James 4:8 Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.

GOD IS EVERYWHERE HE DOESN'T COME AND HE DOESN'T GO...He is the great I AM! Prayer that Moves Mountains by Gordon Lindsay pg. 9
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#### 6. PRACTICAL APPLICATION ON HOW TO APPROACH THE FATHER

Matthew 6:5-9 “And when you pray, you shall not be like the hypocrites. For they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the corners of the streets, that they may be seen by men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward.”<sup>6</sup> But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have \_\_\_\_\_ your door, pray to your \_\_\_\_\_ who *is* in the secret *place*; and your Father who sees in secret will \_\_\_\_\_ you openly.<sup>7</sup> And when you pray, do not use vain repetitions as the heathen *do*. For they think that they will be heard for their many words.<sup>8</sup> “Therefore do not be like them. For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him.

## 7. BEGIN PRAYER BY WORSHIPING THE FATHER

Matthew 6:9 In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, \_\_\_\_\_ be  
Your name

Worship is the first element in prayer. This is where some make their mistake. They think of prayer as a means to receive help in an emergency. True, that is one purpose of prayer, but certainly not the only purpose. If necessary, God will move mountains or stop the sun and moon in their courses to help one of His children. But He also wants something from our prayer. What could God possibly want? He Who is eternal, the All-Sufficient One – what could a mere human have to offer to Him Who rules the universe? There is one thing God seeks and longs for – **worship**. Prayer that Moves Mountains by Gordon Lindsay pg. 13

Psalm 100:2, 4-5 Come before His presence with singing.

Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, *and* into His courts with \_\_\_\_\_. Be thankful to Him, *and* bless His name. <sup>5</sup>For the LORD *is* good; His mercy *is* everlasting, and His truth *endures* to all generations.

1 Corinthians 14:15 Then what am I to do? I will pray with my spirit [by the Holy Spirit that is within me], but I will also pray [intelligently] with my mind *and* understanding; I will sing with my \_\_\_\_\_ [by the Holy Spirit that is within me], but I will sing [intelligently] with my mind *and* understanding also. (Amplified)

### CONCLUSION

No born again Christian should be defeated when it comes to developing a prayer life with their Heavenly Father. The foundation for effective prayer then is based on the following:

- a) A new covenant with God through the blood of Jesus Christ.
- b) The veil of separation is torn by Christ opening up for access to the presence of God
- c) Faith in the Omnipresence of God is required.
- d) God seeks our sincere love and worship
- e) Begin prayer by Hollowing the name of the Father offering up praise and worship

### Answers

Page 1 – Boldly, Grace, Mercy, Turn, Strengthening, Humble

Page 2 – Now, Enter, Holiest, Living, Us

Page 3 – Salvation, Faith, Heart, Shut, Father, Reward

Page 4 – Hallowed, Praise, Sing