

**A BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO PRAYER**  
**#SermonPrayer**  
**40 Days of Prayer – Week 1**  
**Dr. Mark Jackson, October 7, 2018**

**Romans 8:26b** ...We don't even know what we should pray for, nor how to pray as we should... (LB)

**Luke 11:1** One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of the disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray..." (NIV)

**4 FOUNDATIONAL TRUTHS ABOUT PRAYER**

**1. GOD LOVES ME TO TALK TO HIM**

**Psalm 103:13** The Lord is like a father to us, tender and sympathetic to those who reverence him. (LB)

**Matthew 10:30** God pays even greater attention to you, down to the last detail—even numbering the hairs on your head! (MSG)

**2. GOD LISTENS TO SINCERE SIMPLE PRAYERS**

**Matthew 6:5-8** 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 men... <sup>7</sup> And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. <sup>8</sup> Do not be like them... (NIV)

**Hebrews 10:22** Let us come near to God with a sincere heart and a sure faith... (TEV)

**3. GOD LIKES TO ANSWER PRAYER**

**Matthew 7:7** Ask, and you will receive; seek, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you. (TEV)

**Jeremiah 33:3** Call to me and I will answer you. I will show you marvelous and wondrous things that you could never figure out on your own. (MSG)

**James 4:2c** ...You do not have, because you do not ask God. (NIV)

**4. GOD LONGS TO BE CLOSE TO ME**

**Isaiah 30:18a** The Lord waits for you to come to him so he can show you his love and compassion... (NLT)

**Hosea 6:6** I don't want your sacrifices – I want your love! I don't want your offerings, I want you to know me! (LB)

**Psalm 25:14** Friendship with God is reserved for those who reverence him. With them alone He shares the secrets of his promises. (LB)

**James 4:8** Come close to God, and God will come close to you. (NLT)