

# prayer seminar

**Dr. J. Gordon Henry**

*"I have set watchmen  
upon thy walls,  
O Jerusalem  
which shall never hold their  
peace day nor night."*

ISAIAH 62:6

PARTICIPANT'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Seminar Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Place: \_\_\_\_\_

**I WANT MY CHURCH TO BE A PRAYING CHURCH!**



**J. GORDON HENRY MINISTRIES**

Founders: Dr. J. Gordon & Sue Henry  
Serving Since 1980  
President, Teacher Author  
1127 Lakeview Drive  
Lynchburg, Virginia 24502 USA  
(434) 239-8837  
Email: jghm84@aol.com  
[www.jgordonhenryministries.org](http://www.jgordonhenryministries.org)

**FOR INFORMATION & SCHEDULING**

Adam Nathanson  
Vice-President, Senior Teacher  
(443) 846-8277  
Email: [theprayerseminar@gmail.com](mailto:theprayerseminar@gmail.com)  
FACEBOOK: Adam Nathanson  
BE A LIGHTHOUSE OF PRAYER FOR  
YOUR FAMILY, YOUR NEIGHBORS,  
YOUR CITY, YOUR NATION!  
**TELL A FRIEND!**

SESSION ONE	SESSION TWO	SESSION THREE	SESSION FOUR	SESSION FIVE	SESSION SIX	SESSION SEVEN	SESSION EIGHT	SESSION NINE
What is Prayer?	Bible Examples of Prayer	Praying In The Name Of Jesus	The Holy Spirit and Prayer	Sin of Prayerlessness	Getting Ready to Pray	A-C-T-S: Personal praying	Hindrances in Prayer	The Prayer Chapel

# “Lord, teach us to pray...”

LUKE 11:1

## LESSONS:

1. Don't wait until others are interested in prayer.
2. God often begins mighty works with one person.  
Principle: Starting fire with kindling wood.

## ANALYSIS:

1. An acknowledgment of the importance of prayer.
2. A desire to know how to pray.
3. A willingness to be taught to pray.

*I have decided to follow Jesus*

I have decided to follow Jesus///

Though no one join me, still I will follow///

The world behind me, the cross before me///

No turning back, no turning back

## THE WORD OF GOD AND PRAYER

**YOU WILL NEVER DEVELOP A MEANINGFUL, SUSTAINED  
PRAYER LIFE APART FROM THE WORD OF GOD!**



# SESSION ONE

## WHAT IS PRAYER?

### I. Let's get our minds activated in thinking about prayer

#### A OLD TESTAMENT

1. **Génesis 4:26b** *"Then began men to call upon the name of the Lord "*
2. **Génesis 20:7** *"He shall pray for thee"*
3. **Génesis 20:17** *"So Abraham prayed for the people"*
4. **Numbers 11:2** *"When Moses prayed unto the Lord"*
5. **Numbers 21:7** *"And Moses prayed for the people"*
6. **Judges 16:28** *"Lord God, remember me, I pray Thee"*
7. **1 Samuel 1:10** *"Hannah prayed unto the Lord and wept sore"*
8. **1 Samuel 7:5** *"I will pray for you unto the Lord "*
9. **1 Samuel 8:6** *"And Samuel prayed unto the Lord "*
10. **1 Samuel 12:19** *"Pray for thy servants unto the Lord"*
11. **1 Samuel 12:23** *"God forbid that I should sin against the Lord in ceasing to pray for you"*
12. **2 Samuel 7:27** *"in his heart to pray this prayer unto"*
13. **1 Kings 13:6** *"... pray for me that my hand may be"*
14. **2 Kings 4:33** *"and pray unto the Lord"*
15. **2 Kings 6:17,18** *"Elisha prayed"*
16. **2 Kings 19:5** *"Hezekiah prayed before the Lord"*
17. **2 Kings 20:2** *"turned his face to the wall and prayed unto the Lord"*
18. **2 Chronicles 6:24** *"Pray and make supplication unto"*
19. **2 Chronicles 6:32** *"If they come and pray in this house"*
20. **2 Chronicles 7:14** *"If My people which are called by My name, shall humble themselves, and PRAY, and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and will heal their land"*

Note the four requisites:

- "IF"**
1. Humble
  2. Pray
  3. Seek My Face
  4. Turn from Sin

**"THEN",**

1. Hear From Heaven = Headquarters
2. Forgive their sin
3. Heal their land

#### DO YOU WANT GOD TO LOOK YOUR WAY?

**See Isaiah 66:2b**

*"To this person will I look"*

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

#### WORD OF GOD

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

21. **Job 21:15** *"What profit shall we have if we pray unto Him?"*

**QUESTION:** \_\_\_\_\_

22. **Isaiah 59:16** *"And. He saw that there was no man, and wondered that there was no intercessor"*

23. **Isaiah 64:7** *"There is none that calleth upon Thy name, that stirreth himself to lay hold on Thee"*

**THERE ARE FIVE THINGS THAT A BELIEVER HAS TO LEARN TO DO WITH THE WORD OF GOD IF HE IS GOING TO BE USED IN THE WORK OF GOD!**



**“Stirreth Himself” - Movement, Effort, Discipline, Work**



**24. Jeremiah 33.3 -** *“Call upon Me, and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things which thou knowest not.”*



THIS IS A \_\_\_\_\_ Either \_\_\_\_\_ Or \_\_\_\_\_

Disobedience is \_\_\_\_\_ And \_\_\_\_\_

**Matthew 9:35-38**  
**Luke 10:2**  
**John 4:35**

**240 +Countries/Territories**  
**7.8 billion people**  
**2 of 3 have never heard the name**  
**“Jesus” in saving sense one time!**

**B. NEW TESTAMENT**

1. **Matthew 5:44** - *“Pray for them which despitefully use you.”*
2. **Matthew 6:6** - *“Pray to thy Father which is in secret.”*
3. **Matthew 6:7** - *“When ye pray use not vain repetitions.”*
4. **Matthew 6:9** - *“After this manner, therefore, pray ye.”*
5. **Matthew 9:38** - *“Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest.”*
6. **Mark 13:33** - *“Watch and pray; for ye know not.”*
7. **Luke 18:1** - *“Men ought always to pray, and not faint.”*
8. **Acts 1:24** - *“And when they prayed.”*
9. **Acts 2:42** - *“And in breaking of bread and in prayers.”*

10. \_\_\_\_\_ - *“You have not because you ask not.”*

11. \_\_\_\_\_ - *“You ask, but no answer . You ask amiss.”*

Amiss = wrong motive

Right motive is that God will get glory.

12. \_\_\_\_\_ - *“The effectual fervant prayer of a righteous man availeth much.”*

*vv.17, 18: Elijah prayed prayers of incovenience.*

**C.** List five great prayer experiences recorded in the Bible that come to your memory as you continue to think about the BIBLE RECORD REGARDING PRAYER. List the Bible references as an exercise in using your Bible.

		Bible Reference
#1	<u>Moses</u>	<u>Exodus 32:11- 14</u>
#2	<u>Elijah</u>	<u>I Kings 18:36-37</u>
#3	<u>Hannah</u>	<u>I Samuel 1:8ff</u>
#4	<u>Daniel</u>	<u>Chapters 9-10</u>
#5	_____	_____

**DANIEL**

**Chapter 9 - Praying for Nation confessing Specific sins**

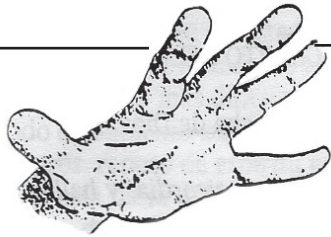
**Chapter 10 - Spiritual Warfare**

1. Daniel prayed.
2. God sent answer immediately.
3. Answer hindered for 21 days.
4. By Prince of Persia

**SATAN IS NOT OMNISICENT, OMNIPRESENT  
 OMNIPOTENT, BUT ORGANIZED.**

## II. INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

It is obvious that if we read certain "familiar passages" of Scripture that contain PRAYER PROMISES made by Jesus for the very first time, we would marvel at the truly amazing statements regarding what happens when we pray. Most PRAYER PROMISES are from the Savior! THAT S INCREDIBLE! Familiarity has dulled us to the impact of these teachings. There is a lesson to be learned from the story of UZZAH . (2 Samuel 6:2-8).



**It is awfully easy  
to become overly  
familiar with the  
Holy.**

The time has come for a clarion call to the individual Christian and to the Church to reconsider the role of prayer. As a part of meeting this great need, the Lord has raised up the prayer seminar ministry.

Real prayer is the basic essential need in the life of each believer. In turn, prayer pays the largest dividend of all investments. God has no favorites and is no respecter of persons. If anyone will conform to the conditions God has set, we can be sure that He will assuredly fulfill His promises. The results will be profound in the ministry of a local church including the salvation of precious souls. Most church services are cold and unappealing. **WHEN HAVE YOU SEEN A CHURCH SERVICE BROKEN UP BY WEEPING AND CONFESSING OF SINS?** Aren't you hungry to see God move?

As an individual, we need to face the issue of prayer. Do I really believe prayer is power? Do I believe that it is the greatest power on earth? Do God's PRAYER COMMANDS really concern me? Do His promises hold good? If God answered the words we repeated on our knees this morning, would we recognize the answer? Do we even remember what we asked? How long has it been since you prayed a definite prayer that you saw answered? Prayer is the power source almost untapped by most Christians - a privilege almost totally neglected.

If no one on earth prayed for the salvation of sinners more fervently or frequently than I do, how many would be converted through prayer? Do I "stir" myself (**Isaiah 64:7**) daily to lay hold on God? Remember key words that translate "stirreth himself" in today's language are \_\_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ !

Do you have family members, close friends, acquaintances who are unsaved or who are not now living for the Lord? **If you don't pray for them, who will?**

**WE BECOME EXCITED ABOUT "matters of importance" THAT ARE IN THE LONG RUN MEANINGLESS.** These matters require our time, energy, and resources but it won't matter twenty- four hours later if we did them or not. As a result of our emphases, we have constantly to invent ways to (1) keep people interested in the work of the church and (2) attract the world to what we have to say.

**Joel 2:28** indicates that one of the characteristics of the age when the Holy Spirit has come to earth is that "supplications" will be made. The majority of Christians who pray today to a living God know very little about real, prevailing prayers of supplication and intercession. Since **ACTIONS SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS**, we can conclude few Christians consider prayer worthwhile. We may do much that is NOBLE, RESPECTABLE AND HUMANITARIAN, but without prayer it will eventually fizzle and come to naught!

***The failure of the church is the failure of prayer; the failure of the individual Christian is the failure of prayer!*** Defeats, Discouragements! Disheartenedness! Fruitlessness! Coldness (even in services)! In fact, there are many believers so empty, cold, and worldly that they stay away from church services (**Hebrews 10:25** encourages us to assemble). Others become hypercritical and live in a negative case. A host even doubt their salvation. The result is spiritual inertia on every hand. The wheels of Zion bog down as folks PLAY CHURCH. Power has been absent so long that the Holy Spirit could remove Himself and churches would not miss Him and still continue their BUSINESS AS USUAL. What a mire of indifference and inactivity we can get ourselves in when we don't pray!

Isn't it time that we who easily trust the word of our fellowmen would begin to trust our Lord and His Word? A major truth to learn is where we are when we are praying. The problem of mind wandering and loss of concentration can easily be dissolved by knowing where we are as we pray. You see prayer is not bringing God down to get in on what we are up to at all; it is not even going into the garden where the dew is still on the roses!

# THRONE ROOM PRAYING

## KEY PASSAGE: Revelation 4:1-2

What did John see? \_\_\_\_\_

What did John hear? \_\_\_\_\_

What did the voice say? \_\_\_\_\_

In Heaven, there is occupied throne. There is a THRONE ROOM.

Where is Jesus in the Throne Room? \_\_\_\_\_

**Hebrews 4.16** - *"Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need."*

**Hebrews 10.19** - *"Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus."*

**SUMMARY:** Prayer is entering into God's THRONE ROOM at any hour of the day or night. You don't have to have prior appointment since God is always there. He doesn't keep office hours. He not only wants you to come, you can stay as long as you want to stay when you get there. There is no time limit!

### Seminar Parameters

1. My purpose in being here is to **ENCOURAGE**, NOT DISCOURAGE.
2. To build you and your church up, not tear you down.
3. To be a stepping stone, not a stumbling block.

OH, ME!

THEN

ISAIAH 6

AMEN!

## A PASSAGE EVERY BELIEVER SHOULD MASTER: JOHN 13, 14, 15, 16, 17

This key passage contains the last words of Jesus before He left the earth—final words of instruction to the disciples, a farewell message. You can imagine how important these words are.

I. Holy Spirit ( See pages 13 & 20)

II. Prayer. Sevenfold invitation to Pray "In My Name" (See page 14). Here's homework:

Look up the references and write out the invitations to pray in your own words.

1. John 14.13 Jesus promises to do what we ask in His name
2. John 14:14 \_\_\_\_\_
3. John 15:6-8 \_\_\_\_\_
4. John 15:14 A true friend will obey His commands in all things
5. John 15:16 \_\_\_\_\_
6. John 16:23,24 \_\_\_\_\_
7. John 16:26 \_\_\_\_\_

### III. GENERAL REMARKS ABOUT PRAYER

REMEMBER: Maintaining a daily  
consistent prayer life is **HARD WORK!**

1. If prayer is anything, prayer is everything!
2. Everything depends on prayer.
3. We are in desperate need to return to personal, prevailing prayer.
4. One meeting with God can wield more influence than a marching army.
5. We are never so high as when we are on our knees.
6. Satan trembles when he sees the weakest Christian on his knees.
7. When it is hardest to pray, pray the hardest.
8. All real growth in the spiritual life (victory over temptation, confidence and peace in the presence of difficulties and dangers: repose of spirit in times of disappointment and loss) depends on the practice of secret prayer.
9. Nothing is beyond the scope of prayer that is not beyond the will of God.
10. Success in spiritual work is dependent on prayer.
11. One cannot live wrong and pray right.
12. Failure in prayer is often due to a heart out of tune with the Lord. The *“pure in heart”* can see God. **2 Timothy 2:22.** *“call on God out of a pure heart.”*
13. It is NOT EASY TO PRAY. It is easier to be a preacher, be a deacon, be a youth worker, be a Sunday school teacher, be a visitor. (**Romans 8:7** “mind of flesh is enmity against God”).
14. Prayer is reporting to duty!
15. Satan can't counterfeit genuine prayer!
16. Prayer is the gymnasium of the soul.
17. “A privilege”—Humble subject coming into the presence of a Sovereign.
18. Prayer connects us with the power.
- 19.
- 20.

**S.D. Gordon: “You can do more than pray after you’ve prayed, but  
you can never do more than pray until you have prayed.”**

### IV. DEFINITIONS

1. All elements of prayer PRESUPPOSE A SENSE OF NEED.

The words translated prayer essentially mean to want something, to feel the need of something, to desire something so much that you can't be satisfied with anything else until this desire is granted. So, in a sense, prayer is HUNGERING AND THIRSTING AFTER GOD who alone can meet our needs.

**Matthew 5:6** \_\_\_\_\_

**John 7:37** \_\_\_\_\_

2. To pray is to let JESUS COME INTO OUR NEEDS. **Revelation 3:20** reveals that He needs access.

3. Prayer is the bridge between two worlds: a means while we are on earth to get in touch with heaven.
4. Prayer pleases God.
5. Prayer places us in touch with God's viewpoint.
6. Prayer is a request to God in the name of Christ by the Spirit's help.
7. Intercessory prayer is praying to God the Father, in the name of Jesus the Son, in the power of the Holy Spirit, for someone or some circumstance.
8. Prayer is the key that unlocks the door of God's treasure house. God's great storehouse is full of blessings. Only prayer can unlock the door to that storehouse. Prayer is the key and faith both turns the key and opens the door to claim the blessing.
9. Prayer is the moment when heaven and earth kiss each other.

10. "Prayer is the soul's sincere desire, uttered or unexpressed; the motion of a hidden fire that trembles in the breast." James Montgomery.
11. Prayer is putting ourselves at God's disposal. God is always on our side, but we are not always on His side.
12. Prayer is deeper than words. It is a heart and mind attitude that recognizes and bows before God. It is expressing to God our helplessness while at the same time expressing our faith in Him.
13. When a person has enough faith to turn to God, that is all the faith required.
14. Prayer is the breath of the soul.
15. Prayer is the passage from spiritual thirst to spiritual refreshing.
16. Prayer is that which moves the Hand that moves the world.
17. Prayer is the business in life of every child of God.
18. Prayer is asking God in faith for what we want that He wants us to have.
19. Although prayer is asking things from God, it is much more than merely expecting God to run our errands for us. It is a higher thing than a beggar merely knocking at the rich man's door.
20. The word really means "a wish directed toward" God in the sense of **Psalm 25:1**: "Unto thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul." BEAUTIFUL!
21. A school boy in Edinburgh, Scotland, replied to Mr. Moody's inquiry, "What is prayer?" as follows:

*Prayer is an offering up of our desires unto God for things agreeable to His will, in the name of Christ, with confession of our sins, and thankful acknowledgements of His mercies.*

22. \_\_\_\_\_
23. \_\_\_\_\_
24. \_\_\_\_\_

## SUMMARY: WHAT IS PRAYER?

*Prayer is the* talking part of a relationship.

*Everyone knows that* Verbal communication is necessary for healthy relationships.

Let's check it out:

Some earthly relationships:

H.W                      Marriage

P.C                        Home

E.E                        Business

When there is no verbal communication, will

Go wrong

Fall apart

Go bankrupt

Some Biblical relationships:

**John 15:15**              Friend

**Colossians 3:24**        Servant

**Romans 7:4**             Bride

What is prayer?

Friend talking to friend

Servant...to Master

Bride...Bridegroom

## DEFINITE ACTIONS OBEYING THE COMMANDS OF JESUS ARE REQUIRED:

Three great commands: pray ye, do ye, go ye.

Without obedience to the "pray ye," it is of little or no use to "do" or "go."



- V. **The Nature of Prayer.** Understanding the three worlds prayer touches will help us understand prayer. There are literally three directions prayer looks.



## HEAVEN

## GOD

## WORSHIP

**KEY VERSE:** **Daniel 11:32** *"But the people who know their God shall be strong and do exploits".*

Prayer is the means whereby we can come to KNOW God. As we talk "with" God, not just "to" Him, we will develop a warm fellowship. In fact, we can be sure that we can never know any person, unless we spend time with that person.

Although prayer is a means to touch people and circumstances, it is also designed to let us know God. There is an element of our prayer time when we should "seek His face" and not just "His hand." In fact, we can attest that the highest result of prayer is not deliverance from evil or securing some desired thing; it is KNOWLEDGE OF GOD.

**John 17:3** *"And this is life eternal, that they should know Thee, the only true God."*

Prayer discovers more of God and that is the soul's greatest discovery. The kneeling Christian always "finds" Him and is found of Him. Brother Lawrence once said, *"Prayer is nothing else than a sense of God's presence."*

As we worship Him, we gaze upon Him in adoration. Adoration is just looking at God and loving Him. There should be a time in our prayer that we seek the Giver, rather than the gift!

R.A. Torrey testified that when he learned to go to God just to be with Him and not ask for anything, his total life changed!

Worship is the Anglo-Saxon word from which we get our Worship. Worship is the recognition of the worthiness of God and acknowledging it with words. This is a time to think about God—who He is—His attributes, His character, His essence, This is a time to ponder, marvel, a time to realize the majesty and the glory of the God whom we are approaching. This is a time for MEDITATION.

**Isaiah 6:3** *"Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord of hosts, the whole earth is full of His glory."*

**Luke 2:14** *"Glory to God in the highest."*

*By prayer we enter into God's holy temple, and penetrate at once to the throne of grace. Prayer is not only the shortest distance to God's mighty throne, it is the only way in. To think that this supreme wonder could take place so suddenly with one bold, blood-bought step! There we see the Lord Jesus ever living to pray for us, and ready to give us of His own praying by His Spirit. Glorious discovery. HE IS ONLY A PRAYER AWAY! The veil of sense and space that hides Him within His temple-universe is suddenly removed as we pray. We enter silently into His temple, and lo, suddenly we are before His throne. Priests, before our great High Priest. There, too, we are suddenly in the presence of angels and archangels, and with all the company of Heaven we worship and adore Him. Only there do we discover the wonder of worship, that worship is before work, and that all His works are done in the spirit of worship. There are many churchgoers, but few worshipers, because there **are few pray-ers!**"*

Armin R. Gesswein in Seven Wonders of Prayer.