

Prayer - Asking God

What is the Hebrew and Greek meaning behind “prayer, pray, prayed?”

1. Go to: “Blueletterbible.org” and enter a search for any of the above.
2. Hebrew – click “tools” of any OT result, and click the Strong’s number.
3. Greek – click “tools” of any NT result, and click the Strong’s number.

Who do I pray to? Let the data drive your theology!

Holy Spirit (Rom 8:26-27)?

Jesus Christ (John 14:13-14; 16:23-24)?

Dead “saints”?

When do you pray? Observe these examples objectively!

Dan 6:10

Mark 14:34-35

James 5:14-16

5) “And when you pray, you are not to be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and on the street corners so that they will be seen by people. Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full. 6) But as for you, when you pray, go into your inner room, close your door, and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees what is done in secret will reward you. (Matt 6:5-6)

7) And when you are praying, do not use thoughtless repetition as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard because of their many words. 8) So do not be like them; for your Father knows what you need before you ask Him.” (Matt 6:7-8)

Another angel came and stood at the altar, holding a golden censer; and much incense was given to him, so that he might add it to the prayers of all the saints on the golden altar which was before the throne. And **the smoke of the incense ascended from the angel’s hand with the prayers of the saints before God.** (Rev 8:3-4)

What about the Parable of the Persistent Widow (Luke 18:1-8)?

9) “Pray, then, in this way: ‘Our Father, who is in heaven, hallowed be Your name.

10) Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

11) Give us this day our daily bread.

12) And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

13) And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil.’

How?

If God knows, why pray?

Lord’s Prayer (Matt 6:9-13)

Why do prayers fail?

31) We know that God does not listen to sinners; but if someone is God-fearing and does His will, He listens to him. **(John 9:31)**
9) But those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap, and many foolish and harmful desires which plunge people into ruin and destruction. 10) For the love of money is a root of all sorts of evil, and some by longing for it have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs. **(1 Tim 6:9-10)**

13) One who shuts his ear to the outcry of the poor will also call out himself, and not be answered. **(Prov 21:13)**

2) You lust and do not have, so you commit murder. And you are envious and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have because you do not ask. 3) You ask and do not receive, because you ask with the wrong motives, so that you may spend what you request on your pleasures. **(Jas 4:2-3)**

2) But your wrongdoings have caused a separation between you and your God, And your sins have hidden His face from you so that He does not hear. 3) For your hands are defiled with blood, And your fingers with wrongdoing; Your lips have spoken deceit, Your tongue mutters wickedness. **(Isa 59:2-3) (Prov 6:16-19)**

5) But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him. 6) But he must ask in faith without any doubting, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind. 7) For that person ought not to expect that he will receive anything from the Lord, 8) being a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways. **(Jas 1:5-8)**

11) The Pharisee stood and was praying this to himself: "God, I thank You that I am not like other people: swindlers, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. 12) I fast twice a week; I pay tithes of all that I get." 13) But the tax collector, standing some distance away, was even unwilling to lift up his eyes to heaven, but was beating his breast, saying, "God, be merciful to me, the sinner!" 14) I tell you, this man went to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted. **(Luke 18:11-14)**

7) You husbands in the same way, live with your wives in an understanding way, as with someone weaker, since she is a woman; and show her honor as a fellow heir of the grace of life, so that your prayers will not be hindered. 8) To sum up, all of you be harmonious, sympathetic, loving, compassionate, and humble; 9) not returning evil for evil or insult for insult, but giving a blessing instead; for you were called for the very purpose that you would inherit a blessing. **(1 Pet 3:7-9)**

10) Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father is in Me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on My own, but the Father, as He remains in Me, does His works. 11) Believe Me that I **am in the Father and the Father is in Me**; otherwise believe because of the works themselves. 12) Truly, truly I say to you, the one who believes in Me, the works that I do, he will do also; and greater works than these he will do; because I am going to the Father. 13) And **whatever you ask in My name, this I will do, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son.** 14) **If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do it.** (John 14:10-14) (Ex 33:17-20)

5) I am the vine, you are the branches; the one who remains in Me, and I in him bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing. 6) If anyone does not remain in Me, he is thrown away like a branch and dries up; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned. 7) **If you remain in Me, and My words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.** 8) My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples. (John 15:5-8)

23) And on that day you will not question Me about anything. Truly, truly I say to you, **if you ask the Father for anything in My name, He will give it to you.** 24) Until now you have asked for nothing in My name; ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be made full. 25) These things I have spoken to you in figures of speech; an hour is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figures of speech, but will tell you plainly about the Father. 26) On that day you will ask in My name, and I am not saying to you that I will request of the Father on your behalf; 27) **for the Father Himself loves you, because you have loved Me and have believed that I came forth from the Father.** 28) I came forth from the Father and have come into the world; again, I am leaving the world and going to the Father." (John 16:23-28) (John 15:7-8)

Re-examine John 14:10-14 above on this page.

Jesus answered them and said, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you seek Me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate some of the loaves and were filled. Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that lasts for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you, for on Him the Father, God, has set His seal." Therefore they said to Him, "What are we to do, so that we may accomplish the works of God?" Jesus answered and said to them, "**This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He has sent.**" (John 6:26-29)

What is the significance of Jesus' name in John 14:14 and 16:23?

What is the significance of "anything" in John 14:14 and 16:23? (1 John 5:10-15)

What is the significance of work in John 14:10-14?

23) But Jesus said to him, “‘If You can?’ All things are possible for the one who believes.” 24) Immediately the boy’s father cried out and said, “I do believe; help my unbelief!” 25) When Jesus saw that a crowd was rapidly gathering, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, “You mute and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him and do not enter him again!” 26) And after crying out and throwing him into terrible convulsions, it came out; and the boy became so much like a corpse that most of them said, “He is dead!” 27) But Jesus took him by the hand and raised him, and he got up. 28) When He came into the house, His disciples began asking Him privately, “Why is it that we could not cast it out?” 29) And He said to them, “**This kind cannot come out by anything except prayer.**” (Mark 9:23-29)

19) Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, “Why could we not cast it out?” 20) And He said to them, “**Because of your meager faith**; for truly I say to you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you.” (Matt 17:19-20)

And He went a little beyond them, and fell on His face and prayed, saying, “My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; yet not as I will, but as You will.” (Matt 26:39)

He went away again a second time and prayed, saying, “My Father, if this cup cannot pass away unless I drink from it, Your will be done.” (Matt 26:42)

And He left them again, and went away and prayed a third time, saying the same thing once more. (Matt 26:44)

Summary:

20) While I was still speaking and praying, and confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel, and presenting my plea before the LORD my God in behalf of the holy mountain of my God, 21) while I was still speaking in prayer, the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision previously, came to me in my extreme weariness about the time of the evening offering. 22) And he instructed me and talked with me and said, “Daniel, I have come now to give you insight with understanding. 23) **At the beginning of your pleas the command was issued, and I have come to tell you, because you are highly esteemed**; so pay attention to the message and gain understanding of the vision. (Dan 9:20-23)

How does faith affect prayer? Example: Same account of healing the epileptic boy, but Jesus gives two different answers:

Does Jesus experience unanswered prayer?

Example to consider: Daniel