

A Beginner's Guide To Prayer

40 Days of Focused Prayer Series – Part 2

Luke 11:1

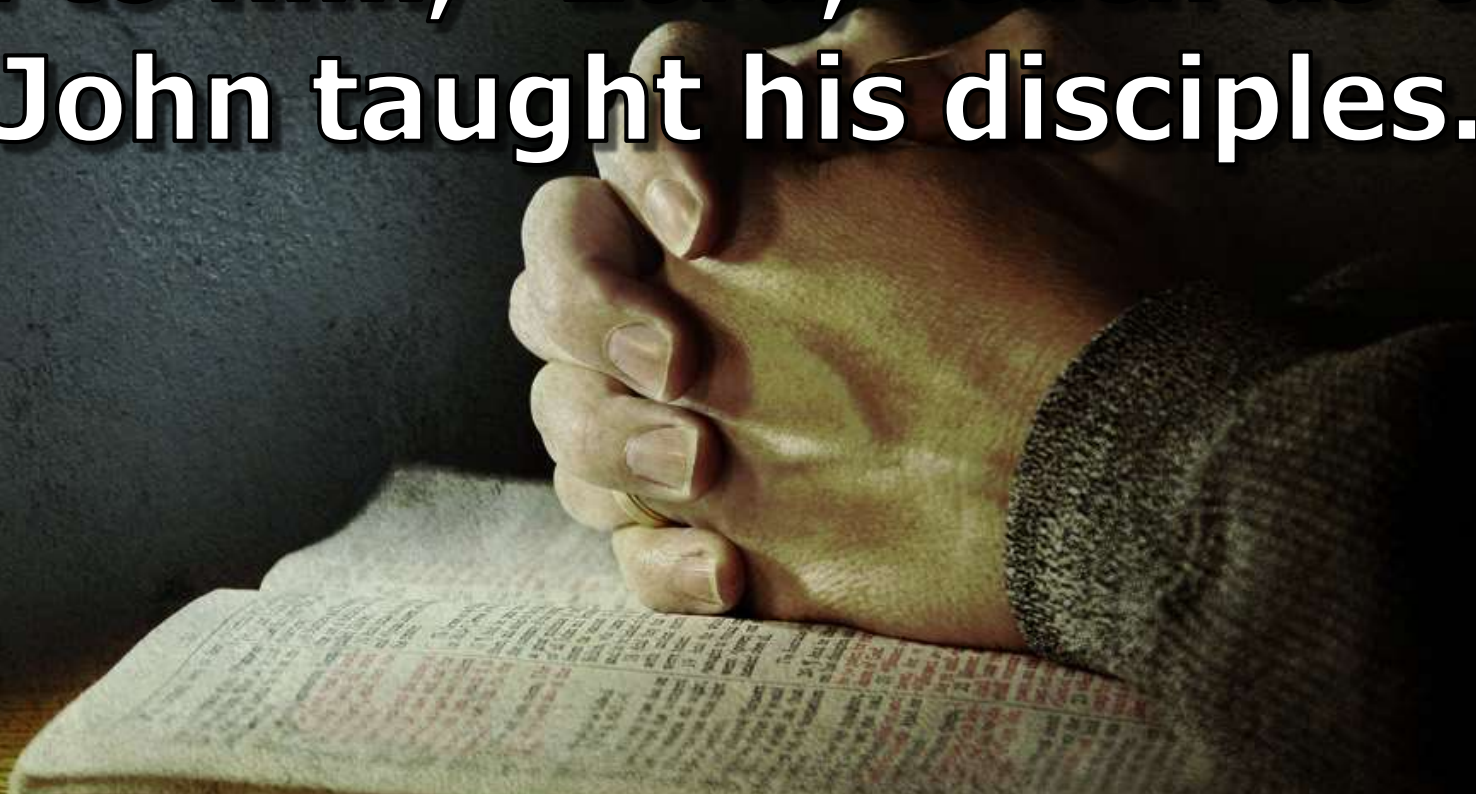
Anthony Grove Baptist Church

Dr. Dennis E. Bean

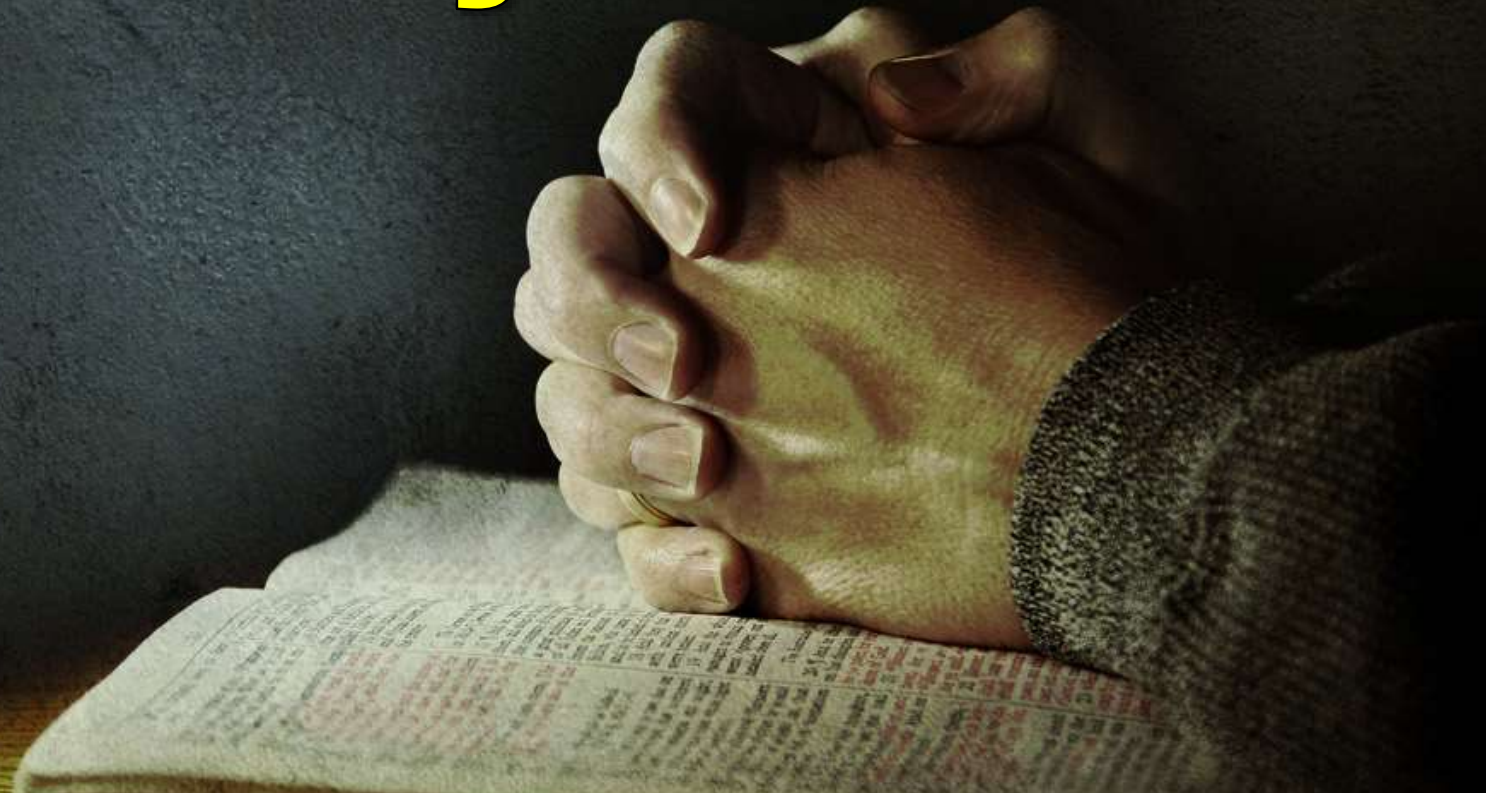
March 17, 2019

Luke 11:1

¹ One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples."--
(NIV)

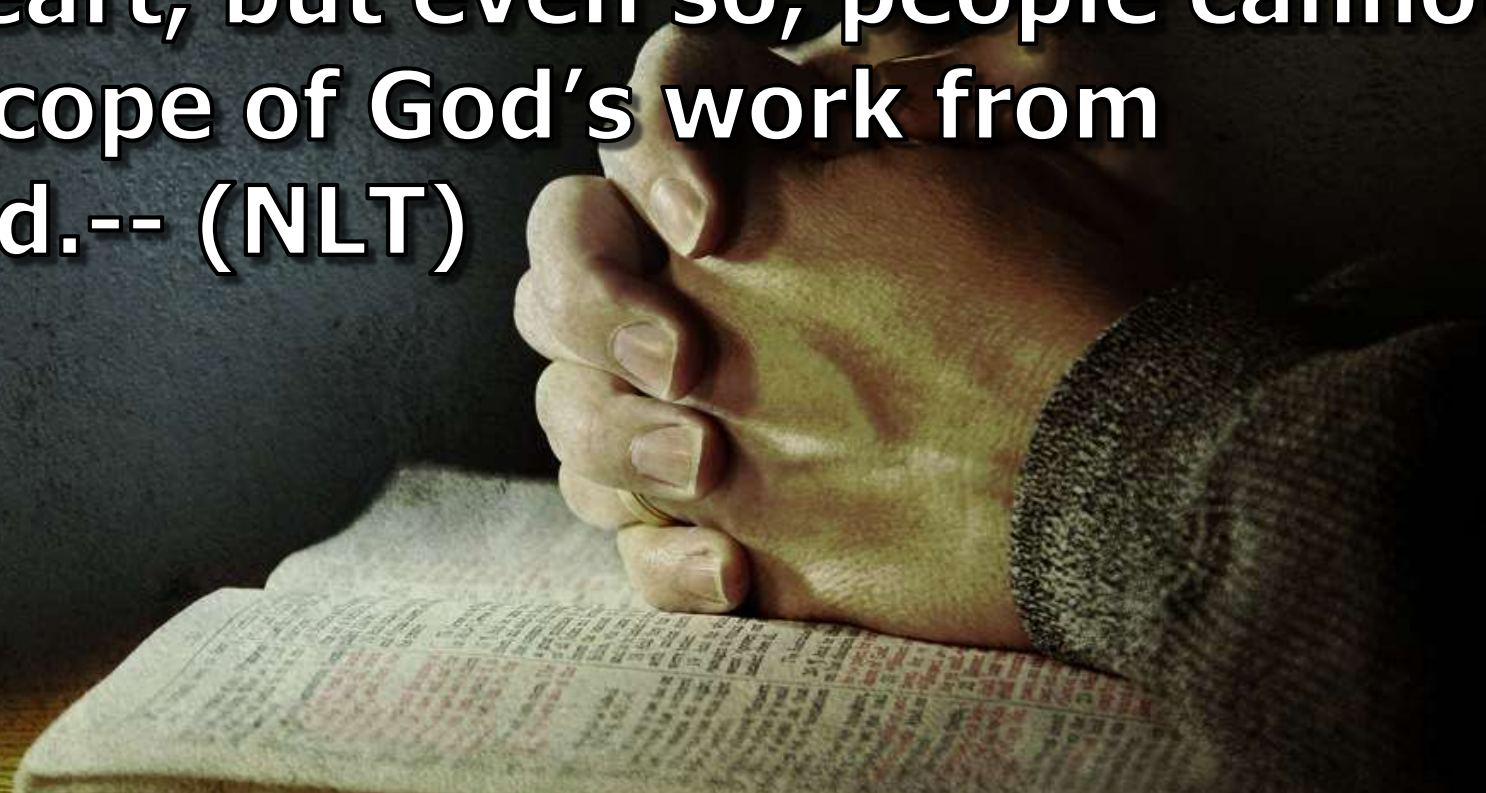


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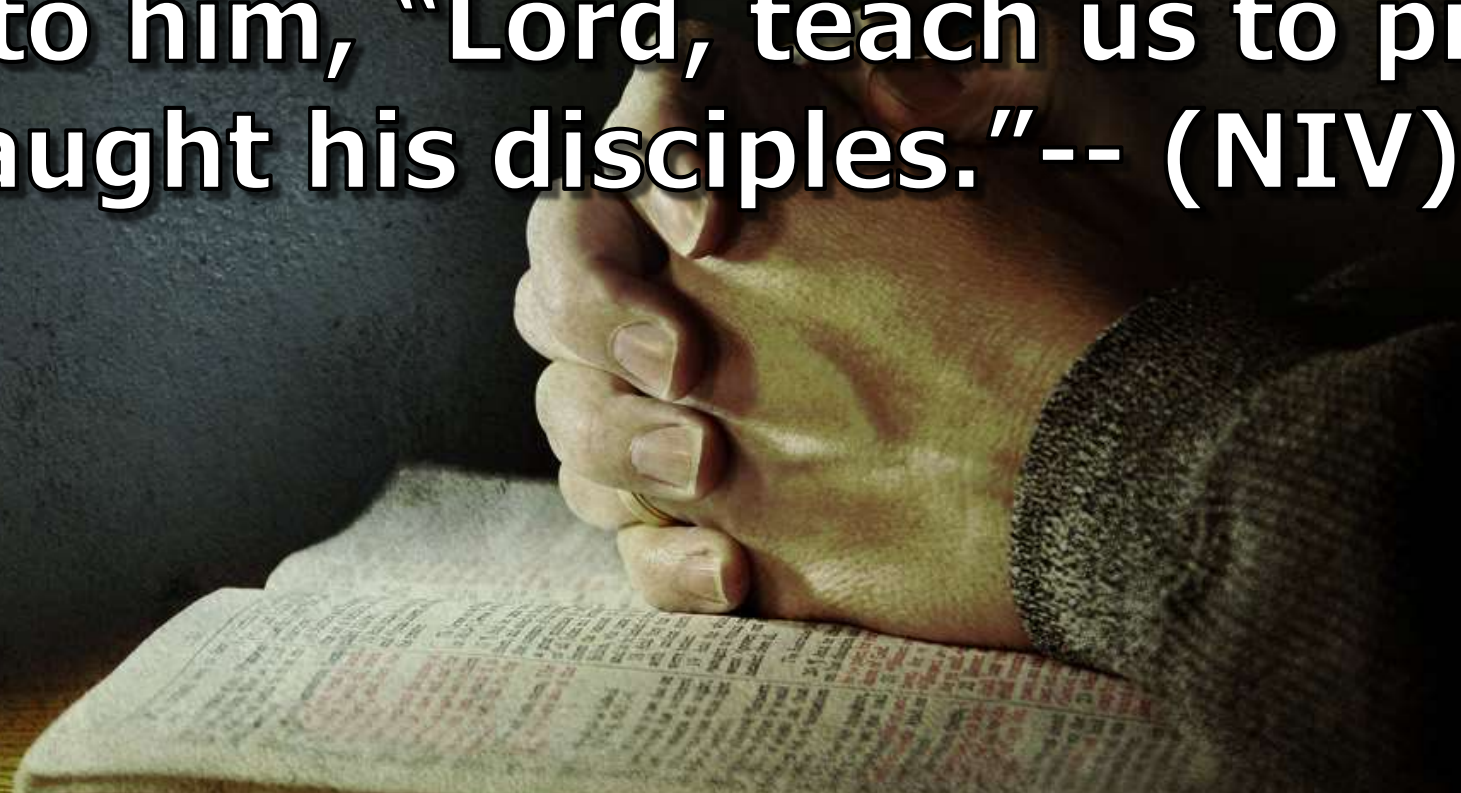
1. Our Creator Hard Wired Us For Prayer.

Ecclesiastes 3:11¹¹ Yet God has made everything beautiful for its own time. He has planted eternity in the human heart, but even so, people cannot see the whole scope of God's work from beginning to end.-- (NLT)



2. We Are Not Very Good At Prayer.

Luke 11:1¹ One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples."-- (NIV)



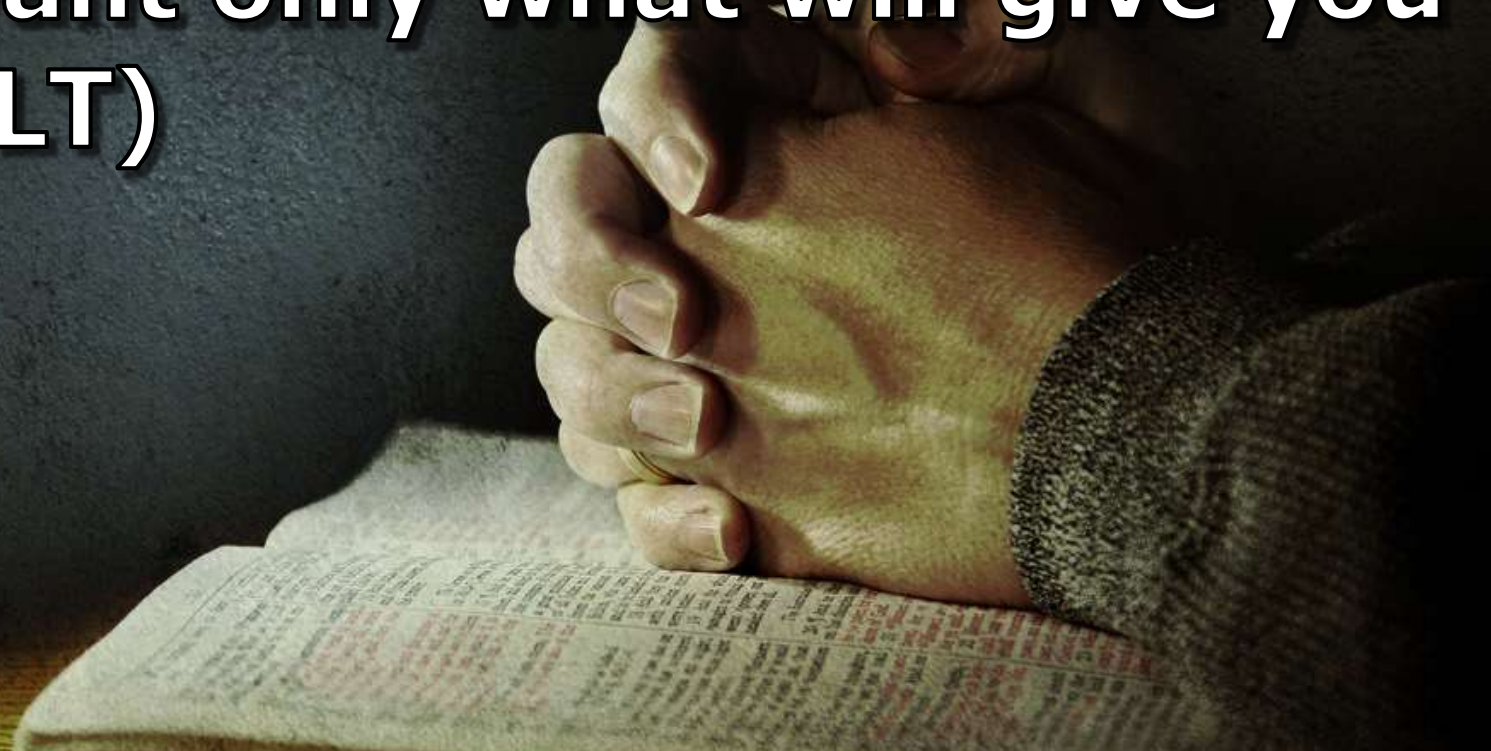
Romans 8:26

²⁶ In the same way the Spirit also comes to help us, weak as we are. For we do not know how we ought to pray; the Spirit himself pleads with God for us in groans that words cannot express.-- (GNB)



3. Our Misconceptions Cause Frustration With Prayer.

James 4:3³ And even when you ask, you don't get it because your motives are all wrong—you want only what will give you pleasure.-- (NLT)



A. Prayer Is Not A **Magic Wand**.

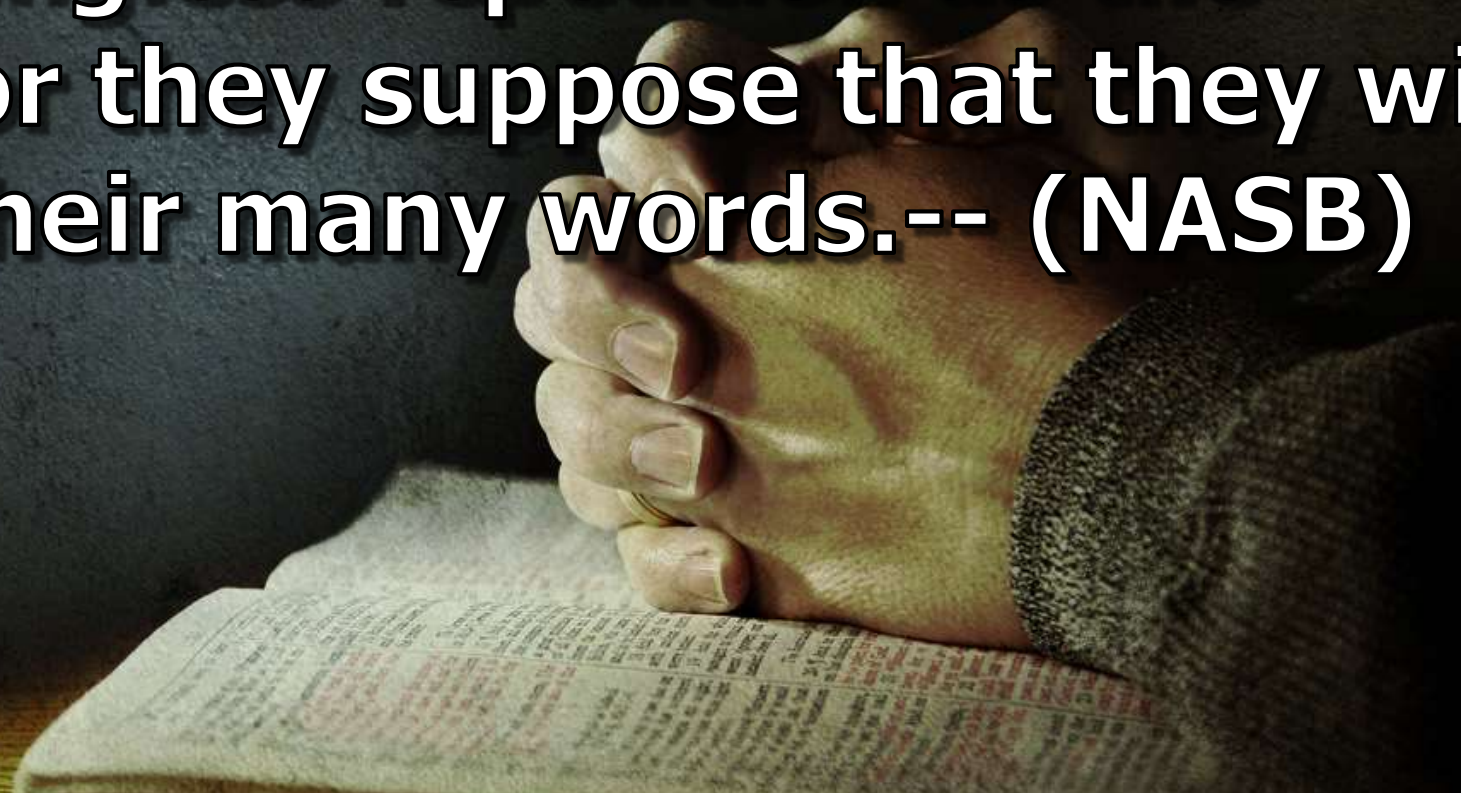
B. Prayer Is Not A
Fire Extinguisher.

C. Prayer Is Not A
Tug of War with God.



D. Prayer Is Not A Ritual To Relieve Guilt .

Matthew 6:7⁷ "And when you are praying, do not use meaningless repetition as the Gentiles do, for they suppose that they will be heard for their many words.-- (NASB)



1. God Loves For Me To Talk With Him About Everything


A. Prayer Is Not Religious Talk.

Psalm 103:13¹³ The LORD is like a father to his children, tender and compassionate to those who reverence him.-- (NLT)



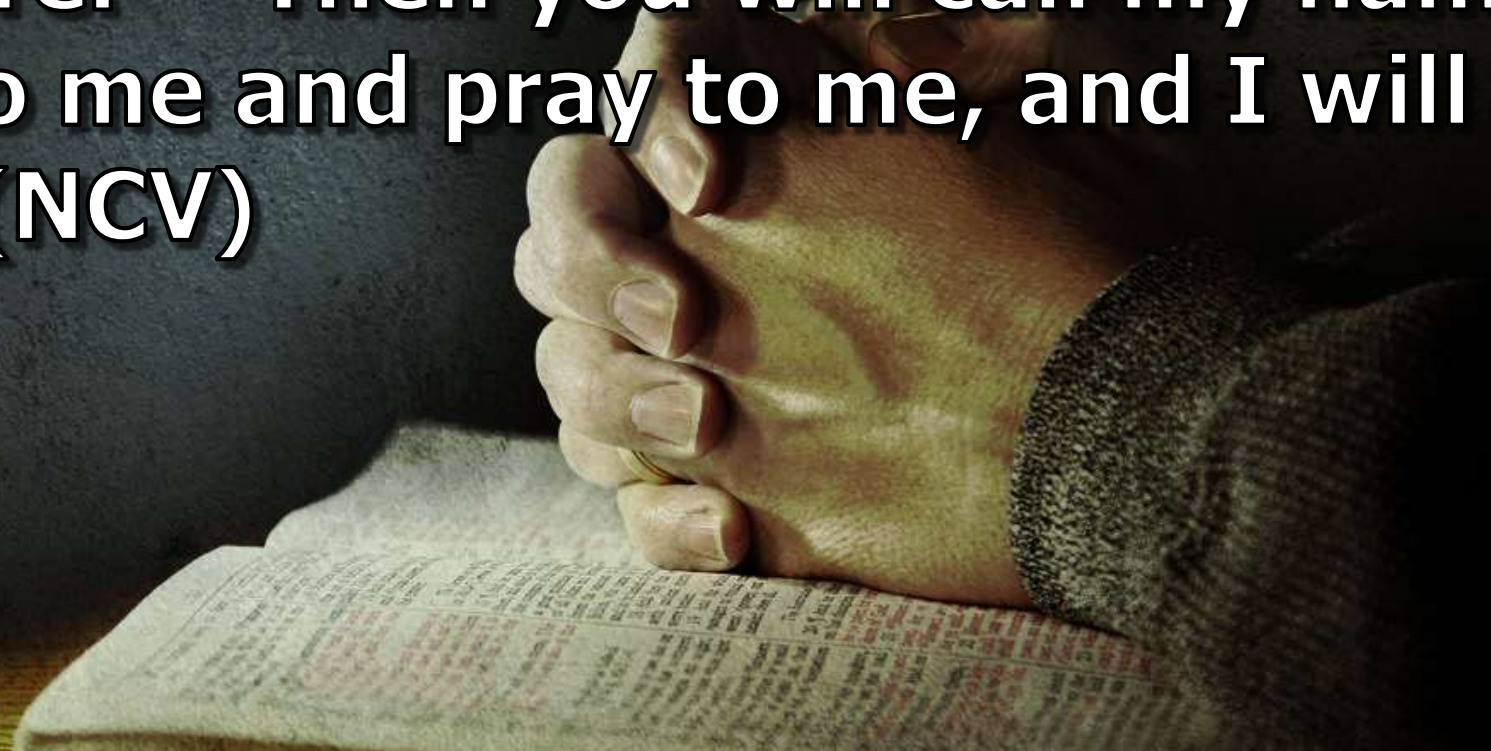
B. Prayer Is A Conversation With the Father.

1 John 5:14–15¹⁴ And we are confident that he hears us whenever we ask for anything that pleases him. ¹⁵ And since we know he hears us when we make our requests, we also know that he will give us what we ask for.-- (NLT)

A close-up photograph of a person's hands clasped together in a prayerful gesture, resting on an open Bible. The hands are positioned in the lower right quadrant of the image, with fingers interlaced. The Bible is open, showing text in both English and Chinese. The background is dark and textured, possibly a wall or a book cover.

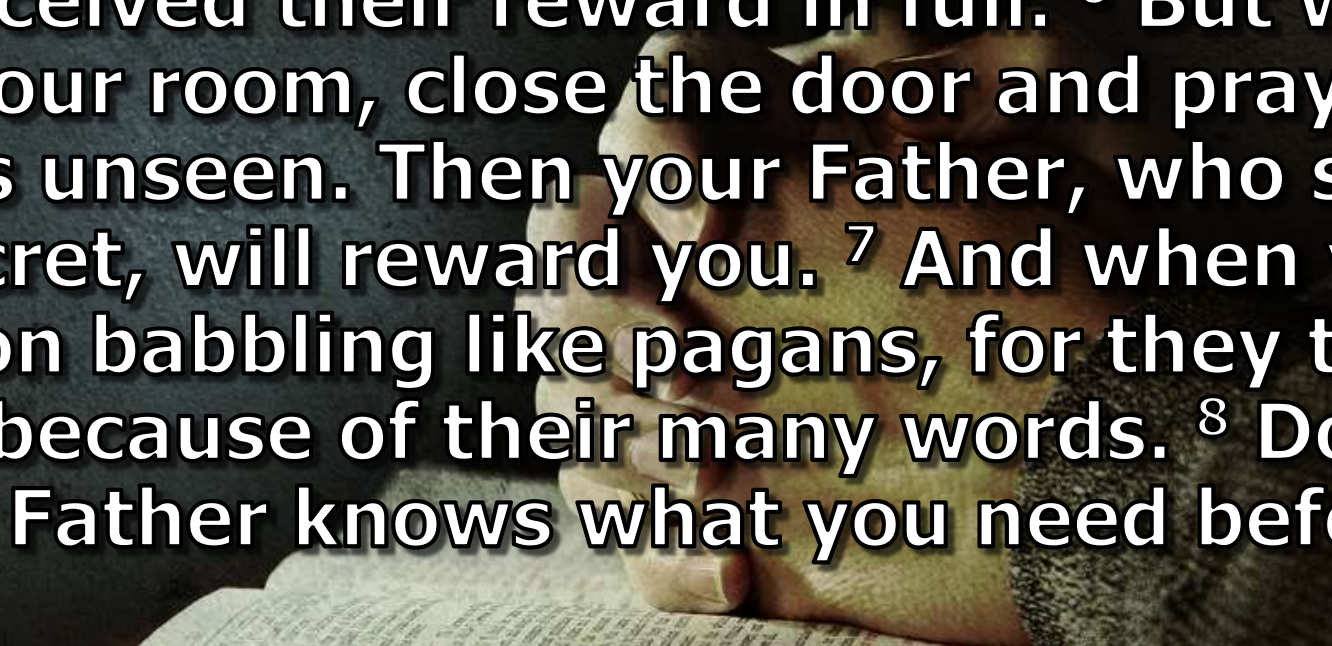
Jeremiah 29:11–12

¹¹ I say this because I know what I am planning for you,” says the LORD. “I have good plans for you, not plans to hurt you. I will give you hope and a good future. ¹² Then you will call my name. You will come to me and pray to me, and I will listen to you.-- (NCV)



2. God Listens To Prayers That Are Simple.

Matthew 6:5–8⁵ “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. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full. ⁶ But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. ⁷ And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. ⁸ Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.-- (NIV)

A close-up photograph of a person's hands clasped in prayer, resting on an open Bible. The person is wearing a grey sweater. The Bible is open to a page with red and black text. The background is dark and textured.

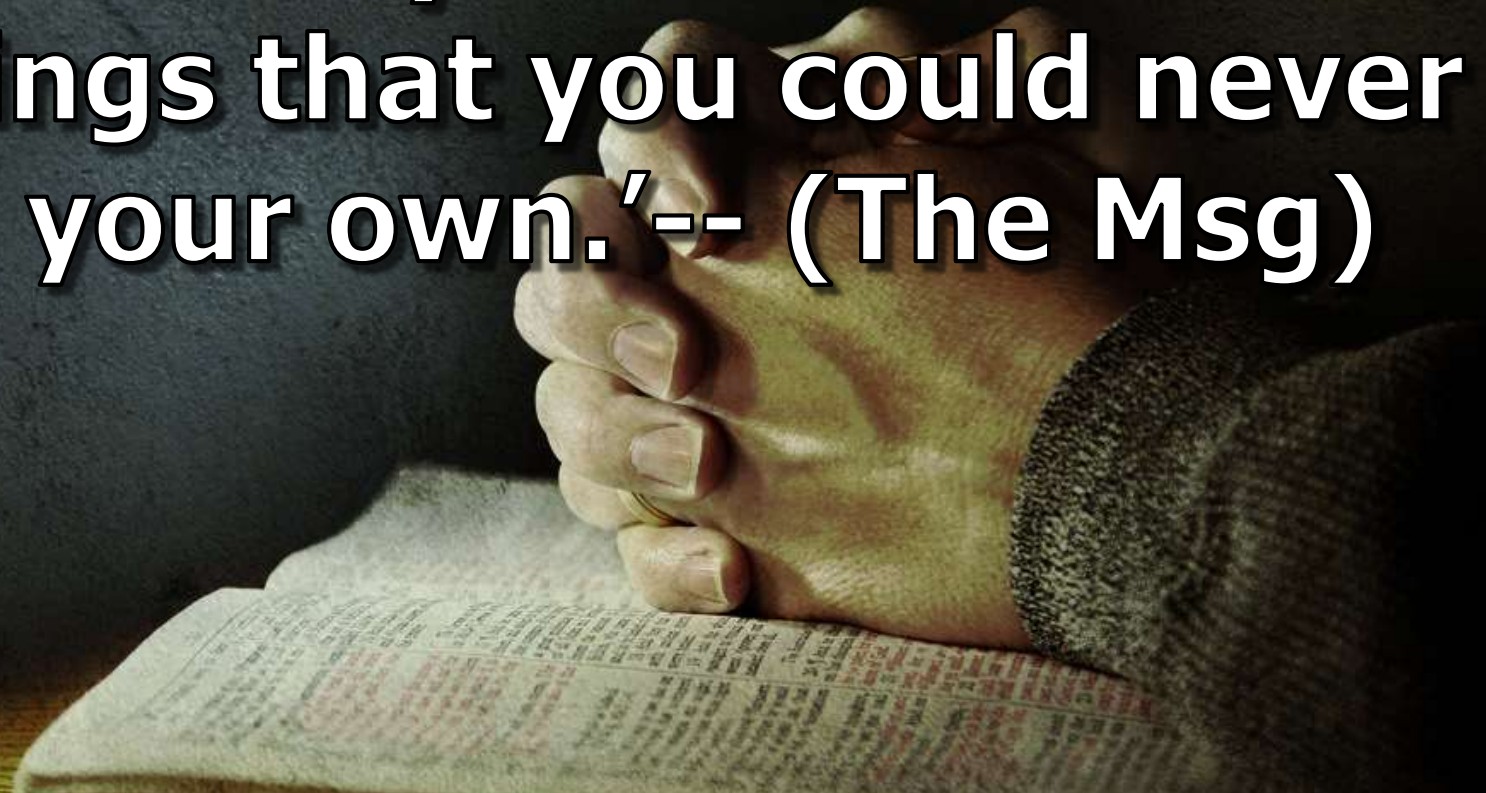
Hebrews 10:22

**22 So let us come near to God with a sincere heart and a sure faith, . . .--
(GNB)**



3. God Likes To Show His Grace **By Answering Prayer.**

Jeremiah 33:3³ 'Call to me and I will answer you. I'll tell you marvelous and wondrous things that you could never figure out on your own.'-- (The Msg)



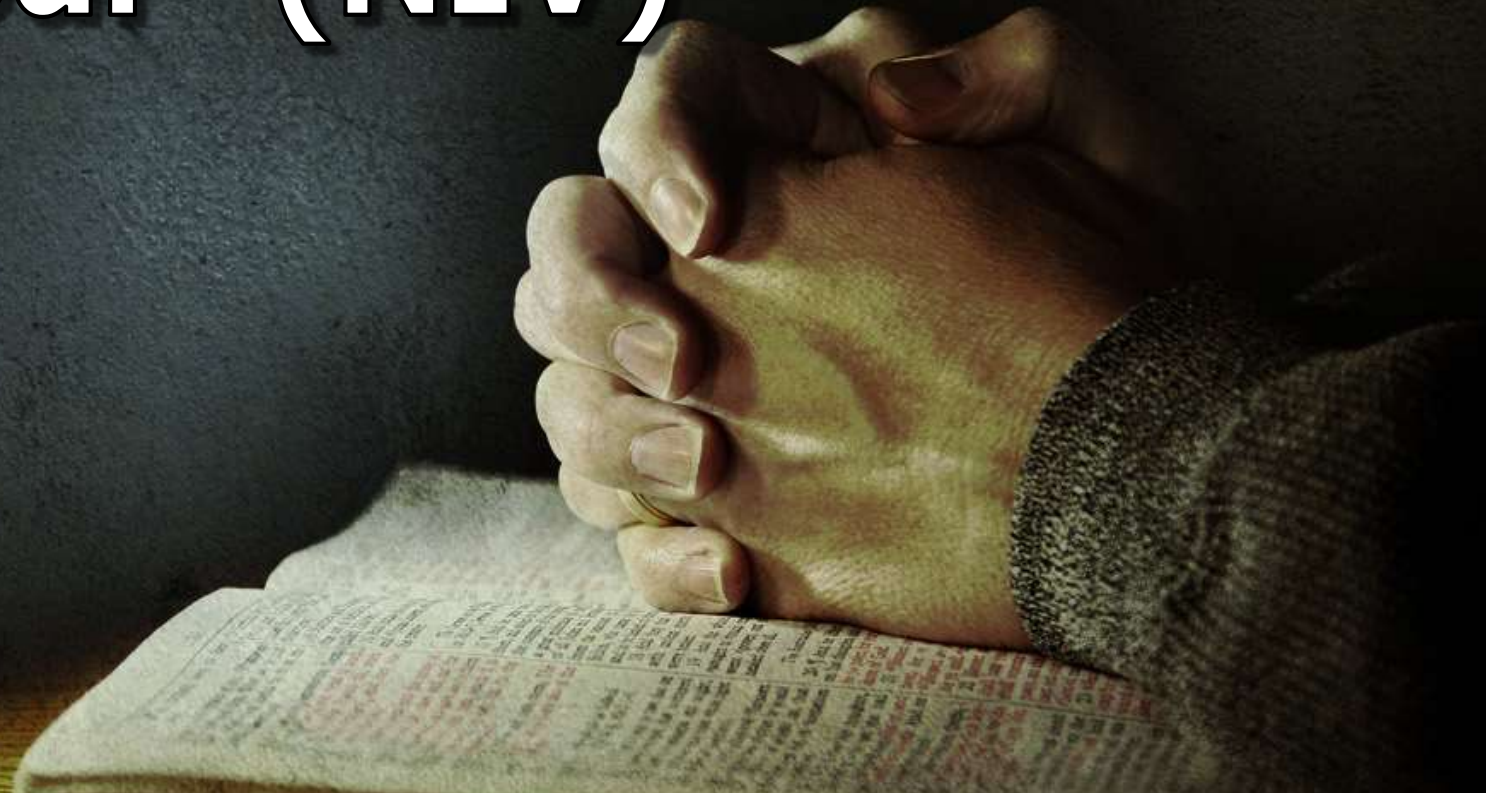
Matthew 7:11

11 So if you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give good gifts to those who ask him.-- (NLT)



James 4:2b

²You do not have because you do not ask God.--(NIV)



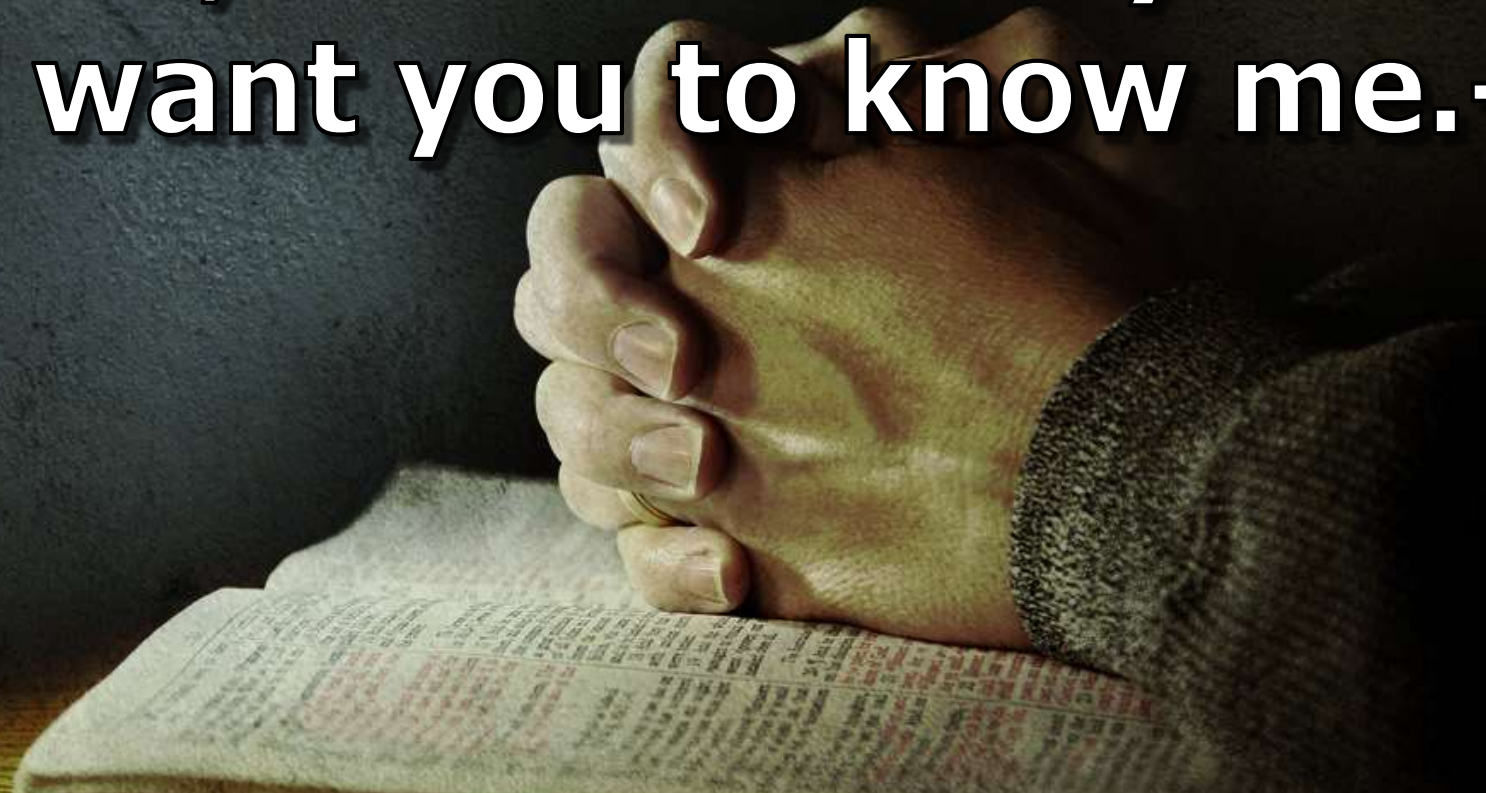
4. God Longs To Be Close To Me.

Isaiah 30:18a ¹⁸ Yet the Lord still waits for you to come to him so he can show you his love (NLT)



Hosea 6:6

⁶ “I don’t want your sacrifices—I want your love; I don’t want your offerings—I want you to know me.-- (TLB)



Psalm 25:14

14 Friendship with God is reserved for those who reverence him. With them alone he shares the secrets of his covenant.-- (NLT)



James 4:8

⁸ And when you draw close to God, God will draw close to you...-- (NLT)



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