

Prayer Ministry

Using the Bible in Prayer

Lesson 5

- I. *Opening*
- II. *Ministry Prayer*
- III. *Lesson: Using the Bible in Prayer*

I.

Scripture's Value in Prayer

An important aspect of Time Alone with God is reading God's Word. If "quiet time" was only our going through a list of needs and ministries, then our fellowship with God would be one-sided. The Psalmist says (85:8) "that he will hear God because He will speak."

What is the surest and safest way to hear the voice of God? _____

2 Timothy 3:16-17. Paul tells us the value of Scripture. List them:

- a) Doctrine: Teaching : Holy
- b) Reproof : Guidance
- c) Correction : Wisdom
- d) Instruction in righteousness : It is true

All of this stretching is for what purpose? furnished unto all good works

These values, taken one step further, reveal to us four qualities of Scripture.

- a) Holy. This provides preparation for prayer. 2 Pet. 1:20-21: Bible Study is a worthy preparation for prayer. Example: Reading the Ps before prayer helps us to focus on the character and nature of God.
- b) Guidance: It is trustworthy. Ps:12:6, It is pure, Prov. 31:10-31, Read a verse , prayed, read a verse, prayed.
- c) Wisdom: it is enlightening. Ps. 119: 130 Example. Peh 6:4
- d) Subjects for Prayer. it is true: Eph 3:14-21 Jesus prayed: John 15:26; 17:17; Num 23:19; Heb 6:18. The words of the bible are acceptable to God.

Jesus' example: Mat 4:1-11; 27:46, Ps. 22; Ps 31:5 God is hidden except were he reveals

himself. It is revelation and not scientific investigation where we find God.

2.

Ways to Use Scripture in Prayer

- 1) Quote a promise as an assurance to an answer
- 2) Quote a fulfilled promise as a reason for praise
- 3) Apply Bible verses to a current situation
- 4) Use Bible verses as a prayer or praise
- 5) Use bible phrases in a prayer.

Biblical Examples:

Jerusalem believers:

Acts 4:24-30 (Ex 20:11; Ps 2:1-2) sea be still in my heart

Nehemiah:

Nehemiah 1:4-11 (Lev. 26:33; Deut. 30:1-4)

Simeon:

Luke 2:25-32 (Is. 42:1-7; v 6esp). used two ways, for praise and for assurance of an answer.

Jeremiah

Jer. 32:17-19 (Deut 9:29, Gen 18:14a; Ex 34:7)

Go back to the beginning and highlight the key words in the five ways Scripture has been used in Bible prayers.

In your own words, describe five ways of using Scripture in prayer.

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____
- 4) _____
- 5) _____

3.

Responding to God's Word

God expects us to respond to Him and to His Word. Our response should be:

Immediate > Obedient > Continuous

Immediate:

The disciples were immediately obedient. Luke 5:4-5; Matt 4:19-20; Mat 9:9; They recognized spiritual authenticity.

There is no fellowship without response to God.

What keeps us from immediacy?

Circle the words below that could help describe an immediate response. Mark out the words that would not describe an immediate response.

<i>later</i>	<i>now</i>	<i>instantaneous</i>	<i>quickly</i>
<i>ready</i>	<i>delayed</i>	<i>meander-drift</i>	<i>pronto</i>
<i>today</i>	<i>tomorrow</i>	<i>defer</i>	<i>hurry</i>
<i>lickety-split</i>	<i>hasten</i>	<i>prompt</i>	<i>avoid</i>
<i>postpone</i>	<i>expedite</i>	<i>capitulate</i>	<i>timely</i>

Obedient: The appropriate response to the Word is obedience.

Matthew 22:37-39 _____

John 13:34 _____

Galatians 6:2 _____

What is it that keeps us from Obedience?

Life's Living Option: When called by the Holy Spirit, and in response to the cross.

- 1) Every man has a choice to make
- 2) Every man has the ability to make that choice
- 3) Every man receives the consequences of that choice
- 4) While he chooses he lives in one of these choices

The appropriate response to God's Word is obedience. The only alternative is disobedience. There is no middle ground. Disobedience destroys fellowship and thus, prayer. This thought may help you:

A command from God is also a Promise

Read Philippians 2:13. Record this with a list. Why is obedience to God's Word important to prayer?

Continuing: A. C. T. S.

Next Month: Expressing Gratitude in Prayer