

**FORWARD IN FAITH**  
**“Growing Our Relationship with God Through Prayer”**  
Acts 2:42

Prayer Is Talking and Listening to God

- I. I NEED TO COMMUNICATE WITH SOMEONE WHO KNOWS ME.  
Isaiah 49:16 ; Matthew 10:30
  
- II. I NEED TO COMMUNICATE WITH SOMEONE WHO WILL ENCOURAGE ME.  
Psalm 23:4; 2 Kings 19:3-4
  
- III. I NEED TO COMMUNICATE WITH SOMEONE WHO WILL CORRECT ME.  
2 Chronicles 7:14; 1 Thess 5:17; James 5:13
  
- IV. I NEED TO COMMUNICATE WITH SOMEONE WHO LOVES ME.  
John 15:12-13; Romans 8:26; Acts 3:6-10

IMPORTANT DATES

Prayer Vigil May 14-15  
All-Church Banquet May 22



***GROWING OUR  
RELATIONSHIP  
WITH GOD  
THROUGH  
PRAYER***

One day, Jesus was praying. His disciples were so impressed, they begged Him, saying, “Teach us to pray” (Luke 11:1). Jesus’ response was what we commonly know as “The Lord’s Prayer.” It is a wonderful prayer—simple, but profound in that it includes almost every area that should be covered in prayer.

Since I was a small child, I remember praying—in church, at meals, at bedtime. I’m reminded of a story I heard about a boy who prayed for a hundred dollars. He didn’t get a response, so he decided to send a letter to God. Someone at the Post Office decided to forward the letter to President Bush. The President thought he would make the boy’s day, so he slipped \$5 in an envelope and sent it to the return address.

The boy opened the letter and was glad to receive the money. That night he prayed, “Thanks, God. I appreciate you answering my prayer. But next time, would you please not send it through Washington. The government took all but \$5.”

For many of us, praying is much like breathing; it just comes naturally. But for some, prayer is a frightening thing. They don’t know how to pray or what to pray for. Do they pray on their knees? Do they close their eyes? And what about all those “thees,” and “thous”? It can be confusing.

Today, we’re going to talk about prayer and how it is a key in our relationship with God. Please take a moment prior to the service to pray that this would be a time when many are challenged to go deeper in their relationship with our Heavenly Father.

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