

## Prayer to Go DVD Lecture Series Lesson 1 Notes

### I. The Top Reasons Why our prayers aren't answered.

#### 1. Introduction:

##### i. The 8 lessons on prayer will look at :

1. What is means to pray
2. What the purpose of prayer is
3. Why so many prayers don't get answered
4. How to pray effective prayers that do get answered.

##### ii. Lesson composition:

1. The theology of prayer
2. Small Group Discussion
3. Guided prayer time.:

##### iii. What is Prayer: In its basic form, prayer is simply communication with God.

##### iv. Many types of prayer:

1. Worship: Communication for the sake of praising His name.
2. Confession and forgiveness
3. Deliverance and wisdom
4. Petition and intercession
  1. We are asking God to do something or give us or someone else something which we don't have .
  2. Focus for these lessons is will be petition and intercession.

#### 2. Body

Why so many people feel that their prayer of petition and intercession are so ineffective. Christians question: "Why pray when my prayers aren't answered in any kind of miraculous way?

##### 1. We don't pray very much.

##### i. Average Christian prays 3 minutes a day. Why?

1. Too busy- not enough time.
  1. James 4.2, " You do not have, because you do not ask God.
2. Our needs are met.
  1. Most Americans are self-sufficient and can get their physical needs met.

##### 2. We pray selfish prayers.

##### i. 3 kinds of petition and intercession prayers.

1. Prayers for self
2. Prayers for others
3. Prayers for the kingdom of God

##### ii. Selfish Prayers

1. We ask with wrong motives, esp. things for our pleasure.
2. We respond to the old nature in us.
  1. Old nature: the natural person inside of us without Christ. It is the sinful nature
  2. New nature: That part of us that is born again.
  3. Gal. 5.24 & Col 3.5
  4. The old nature controlled us. But now the new nature that is united with the Holy Spirit can control us.

##### iii. Our new nature wants to pray for things for God's glory.

1. Which nature are we feeding?
2. God says no to selfish prayers.

#### 2. Conclusion: Give prayer another chance.