

Lesson Notes:

## **The Power of Prayer**

Many Christians feel that God is too busy to be burdened with their troubles. However, God promises us in the Bible that he not only hears but answers prayer. Following are truths in the Bible regarding prayer.

### **Scriptural Principles**

**1) God hears & answers prayer** - **Psalm 4:3** and **Luke 1:13** tells us that God hears and answers our prayers. **Matthew 7:11** tells us that if we being sinners can give good gifts to our children think what a loving God will do for us.  
**1 Samuel 28:15-18** tells us that God may not answer prayer as a result of disobedience.

**2) Prayer can relieve stress and bring us peace.** – **Philippians 4:6-7; James 5:15**

**3) Prayer can change events** – In **Genesis 18:20-33** Abraham speaks to God on Sodom & Gomorrah's behalf. In **Isaiah 38:1-6** God adds 15 years to Hezekiah's life.

**4) Prayer fosters a close relationship with God.** – We see in **Matthew 26:40-42** Christ's close relationship with his father in the Garden of Gethsemane. In **Ezra 8:23** God provided protection to Ezra and those journeying to the temple due to their prayers.

**5) Prayer can be pleasing to God** – In **1 Kings 8:56-60** Solomon delivers a prayer pleasing to the Lord. Solomon's prayer included the following:

In the above passage Solomon delivers a prayer pleasing to God. It includes:

- Acknowledgement of God's presence
- Desire for God's will
- He prays for the desire and ability to obey God's commandments
- He asks for help with each day's needs
- He prays for the spread of God's word

**6) We can offer prayer for our loved ones daily** – In **Job 1:5**, Job offered sacrifices for his children daily. We can offer prayers for our loved ones on a daily basis.