

Chapter Two

Finding Answers Through Prayer

Prayer is the great bridge between the child and His Heavenly Father and there can be no greater comfort for an afflicted child to be in communication with the “Father of mercies and God of all comfort” (2 Corinthians 1:3). Prayer is often the most important action to take, and yet, it is usually saved for last, when affliction seems unbearable, intolerable, and hopeless. Let us now follow the instruction of James: “Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray” (James 5:13).

Use the scriptures below to answer the most basic questions about prayer.

What is prayer?

1 Chronicles 16:11

Philippians 4:6

Who should pray?

Luke 18:1-8 (emphasis on verse 7)

James 5:13

When should we pray?

1 Thessalonians 5:17

Why do we pray?

Luke 6:12

1 Timothy 2:1-4

How do we pray?

Matthew 6:5-13

Romans 8:26

Read the accounts of Jesus praying in Gethsemane: Matthew 26:36-46, Mark 14:32-42, Luke 22:39-46.

What are some similarities and differences in these accounts?

What two things did Christ pray for in the garden? Which “plea” took priority? Why?

Why must we pray for the Lord’s will to be done?

Consider what events would occur if the Lord had allowed the “cup” to pass from Christ. Finish this sentence: If Christ had not died on the cross, then...

How does a prayer of obedience and submission glorify God?

Personal Reflection

In addition to praying for God’s will, what are other things you can pray for during a time of trial and suffering?