

Topical Study – New Testament Words for Prayer

1. What should I pray for? Content of Prayer

- Pray for your enemies.

“But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you” (Matthew 5:44).

“bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you” (Luke 6:28).

- Pray for what Jesus commanded in His pattern prayer requests (Matthew 6:9-13)

“Pray, then, in this way: ‘Our Father who is in heaven, Hallowed be Your name.

¹⁰Your kingdom come. Your will be done, On earth as it is in heaven.

¹¹‘Give us this day our daily bread. ¹²‘And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. ¹³‘And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.’

- Pray for God’s Kingdom to come.
- Pray for your daily needs.
- Pray for forgiveness.
- Pray for freedom from temptation.
- Pray for children (Matthew 19:13).
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- Pray for troubles to leave (more under the when of prayer).

Matthew 26:39 And He went a little beyond them, and fell on His face and prayed, saying, “My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; yet not as I will, but as You will.”

- Pray for all the saints to: (With all prayer... for all the saints)
 - Grow in love and discernment.

“And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in real knowledge and all discernment,” (Philippians 1:9).

“For this reason also, since the day we heard of it, we have not ceased to pray for you and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding” (Colossians 1:9).

- Have opportunity to share the Gospel.

“Praying at the same time for us as well, that God will open up to us a door for the word, so that we may speak forth the mystery of Christ, for which I have also been imprisoned;” (Colossians 4:3)

“Finally, brethren, pray for us that the word of the Lord will spread rapidly and be glorified, just as it did also with you;” (2 Thessalonians 3:1)

“And when they had prayed, the place where they had gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak the word of God with boldness” (Acts 4:31).

“With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints,¹⁹and pray on my behalf, that utterance may be given to me in the opening of my mouth, to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel,²⁰for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in proclaiming it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak” (Ephesians 6:18–20).

- Grow in their faith to fulfill God’s purpose for their spiritual life.

“To this end also we pray for you always, that our God will count you worthy of your calling, and fulfill every desire for goodness and the work of faith with power, (2 Thessalonians 1:11).

(Jesus to Peter) ... “but I have prayed for you, that your faith may not fail; and you, when once you have turned again, strengthen your brothers” (Luke 22:32).

- Live with a good conscience before God with honorable conduct.

“Pray for us, for we are sure that we have a good conscience, desiring to conduct ourselves honorably in all things” (Hebrews 13:18).

- Have spiritual illumination to understand the blessings we have in Christ.

“do not cease giving thanks for you, while making mention of you in my prayers; ¹⁷that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him. ¹⁸I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe...” (Ephesians 1:16–23).

- Pray for the salvation of those who do not know the Lord as Savior.

“Brethren, my heart’s desire and my prayer to God for them is for their salvation” (Romans 10:1)

- Pray for healing.

“And it happened that the father of Publius was lying in bed afflicted with recurrent fever and dysentery; and Paul went in to see him and after he had prayed, he laid his hands on him and healed him” (Acts 28:8).

“Is anyone among you sick? Then he must call for the elders of the church and they are to pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord” (James 5:14);

- Pray for leaders of human institutions.

“First of all, then, I urge that entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men, ²for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity” (1 Timothy 2:1-2).

2. Why should I pray?

- Because Jesus says to.

“Pray, then, in this way... (Matthew 6:9)

- Because the Bible says to.

“rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer” (Romans 12:12),

“Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God” (Philippians 4:6).

“Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with an attitude of thanksgiving” (Colossians 4:2)

1 Timothy 2:1-2 (NASB95)

¹First of all, then, I urge that entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men,

²for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity.

- Because you will be able to escape temptation.

“Keep watching and praying that you may not enter into temptation; the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak” (Matthew 26:14; Mark 14).

- Because the early church made prayer a priority.

“These all with one mind were continually devoting themselves to prayer, along with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers” (Acts 1:14).

“They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer” (Acts 2:42).

“But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word” (Acts 6:4).

3. How should I pray? Manner of Prayer

- Don't pray to be recognized by others (people on earth).

"When you pray, you are not to be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and on the street corners so that they may be seen by men. Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full" (Matthew 6:5).

- Communicate as you pray (not without meaningless repetition - talk like you mean it.)

"And when you are praying, do not use meaningless repetition as the Gentiles do, for they suppose that they will be heard for their many words" (Matthew 6:7).

- Pray in faith believing.

"Therefore I say to you, all things for which you pray and ask, believe that you have received them, and they will be granted you" (Mark 11:24).

- Pray as one justified: confident in God's forgiveness, not your own ability to earn His favor.

"Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and was praying this to himself: 'God, I thank You that I am not like other people: swindlers, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector'" (Luke 18:10-11).

- Pray in a way that others understand (when praying with others 1 Corinthians 14).
- Pray with a heart that has sinned confessed and that is not angry with others.

"Therefore I want the men in every place to pray, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and dissension" (1 Timothy 2:8).

"Then he prayed again, and the sky poured rain and the earth produced its fruit" (James 5:18).

"You husbands in the same way, live with your wives in an understanding way, as with someone weaker, since she is a woman; and show her honor as a fellow heir of the grace of life, so that your prayers will not be hindered" (1 Peter 3:7)

- Pray with a forgiving attitude.

“Whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone, so that your Father who is in heaven will also forgive you your transgressions” (Mark 11:26).

4. **When should I pray?** Time and Occasions

- Jesus prayed late into the night when all by Himself

“After He had sent the crowds away, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray; and when it was evening, He was there alone” (Matthew 14:23).

- Jesus arose early before everyone else and prayed.

“In the early morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house, and went away to a secluded place, and was praying there” (Mark 1:35).
“After bidding them farewell, He left for the mountain to pray” (Mark 6:46).
But Jesus Himself would often slip away to the wilderness and pray” (Luke 5:16).

“It was at this time that He went off to the mountain to pray, and He spent the whole night in prayer to God” (Luke 6:12).

- Pray at all times.

“With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints” (Ephesians 6:18),
“pray without ceasing;” (1 Thessalonians 5:17).

- Pray when in times of great distress.

“Is anyone among you suffering? Then he must pray. Is anyone cheerful? He is to sing praises” (James 5:13).

- Jesus prayed and asked others to pray before going to the cross (Matthew 26:36)

Matthew 26:36 - Then Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemane, and said to His disciples, “Sit here while I go over there and pray.”

Luke 22:44 - And being in agony He was praying very fervently; and His sweat became like drops of blood, falling down upon the ground.

- The early church prayed when Peter was in prison and when they faced persecution.

“And when he realized this, he went to the house of Mary, the mother of John who was also called Mark, where many were gathered together and were praying” (Acts 12:12).

“But about midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns of praise to God, and the prisoners were listening to them” (Acts 16:25).

“When he had said these things, he knelt down and prayed with them all” (Acts 20:36).

“When our days there were ended, we left and started on our journey, while they all, with wives and children, escorted us until we were out of the city. After kneeling down on the beach and praying, we said farewell to one another” (Acts 21:5).

- Pray when facing a big decision or endeavor.
 - Choosing an Apostle

“And they prayed and said, ‘You, Lord, who know the hearts of all men, show which one of these two You have chosen’” (Acts 1:24).

- Sending missionaries on an evangelistic endeavor.

“And these they brought before the apostles; and after praying, they laid their hands on them” (Acts 6:6).

“Then, when they had fasted and prayed and laid their hands on them, they sent them away” (Acts 13:3).

“When they had appointed elders for them in every church, having prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord in whom they had believed” (Acts 14:23).

- That others might know God’s Spirit.

“Who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit” (Acts 8:15).

PRAYER LIST FOR OFFICIALS IN AUTHORITY

“First of all, then, I urge that entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men, 2for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity” (1 Timothy 2:1-2).

- **FEAR:** Pray for them to minister their office with a conscience that recognizes God will judge them for their decisions and actions (Fear of God).
- **WISDOM:** Pray for them to have wisdom to make decisions that will cause the easier spread of the Gospel and will better the lives of their constituents.
- **SALVATION:** Pray for their salvation. That they would have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ as God and Lord of their lives.
- **PEACE:** Pray for grace to live peaceably under their authority and that their authority would lead toward peace in our city and neighborhood

Name

Position of Authority

STATE AND LOCAL	
Karen Koslowitz	City Counsel
Grace Meng	Representative for NY State’s 6th Congressional District
Andrew Hevesi	State Assemblyman for District 28
Toby Ann Stavisky	New York State Senator for 16th Senate District
Chuck Schumer	New York State Senator
Kirsten Gillibrand	New York State Senator
Scott M. Stringer	NYC Comptroller
Terence A. Monahan	Chief of Police
Melinda Katz	Queens DA
Letitia James	New York Attorney General
Andrew Cuomo	New York Governor
Donavan Richards	Queens Borough President
Bill de Blasio	New York Mayor
FEDERAL	
Joe Biden	President
Kamalla Harris	Vice President
Hon. Rowan Wilson	Judges of Court of Appeals in Albany
Eugene Fahey Jenny	
Rivera Janet DiFiore	
Leslie Stein Michael	
Garcia Paul Feinman	