

Intro:

READ WLC Q&A 185

Main Point of Text: As Jesus faces His most trying temptation He falls to His face in prayerful submission to His Father.

Sermon Point: *Pray On Your Knees.*

Move 1: Pray as unworthy subjects bowing before God's merciful majesty.

Alertness.

LC: "We are to pray with an awful apprehension of the majesty of God": *Keep thy foot when thou goest to the house of God, and be more ready to hear ...* (Ecclesiastes 5:1). Good prayer involves good listening. Lk. 15:17-19: Prodigal Son returned to Father moved by sense of hunger and pending death; listened to the Spirit that brought him to his senses. Lk. 18:13-14: forgiven publican humbly asked for mercy. LC: "and [with a] deep sense of our own unworthiness, necessities, and sins". So Abraham prayed he was but dust and ashes before S&G became salt and smoke (Gen. 18:27). So Jacob said he was not worthy of all the least of God's mercies as he petitioned safety from Esau (Gen. 32:10).

Move 2: Pray as loyal subjects laying your lives down before King Jesus.

Attitude.

LC: "with penitent ... hearts": *The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.* (Psalm 51:17). Sorrowful. Vulnerable. Open. 1 Sam. 1:15: Hannah explained to Eli she was not drunk, but pouring her soul out before the LORD. LC: "thankful, and enlarged hearts": *... in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.* (Phi 4:6)

Move 3: Pray with your nose in God's authoritative and life-giving Word.

Awareness.

LC: "with understanding": *... I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also ...* (1 Cor. 14:15)
LC: "with ... faith": Heb. 11:6. *But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering ...* (James 1:6) *What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them* (Mark 11:24) Pray God's promises and believe He is faithful to them.

Move 4: Pray without your fingers crossed behind your back.

Authenticity.

LC: “with”

- “sincerity”: *The LORD is nigh unto all them that call upon him ... upon him in truth.* (Ps. 145:18)
Pray according to His will/in Christ’s name; and live as such. Don’t say sorry w/o sounding like it.
- “fervency”: *... weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you.* (James 5:1)
- love”: *I will therefore that men pray ... lifting up holy hands, without wrath ...* (1 Tim. 2:8)

Move 5: When God brings you low, stay down and keep praying there.

Acceptance.

LC: “and [with] perseverance”: *Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance ...* (Eph. 6:18)

LC: “waiting upon him, with humble submission to his will”. Mathew 26:39:

- Was the worse and last temptation: get out of what He knows is coming. The cross.
- Devil returned to torment Him (Luke 4:13). See vss. 36-38. Warning: vss. 40-41.
- His resolve was not His human will, but the Divine will. So does your resolve need to be in prayer.
- Instead of running, Christ fell on His face.

Conclusion:

Pray On Your Knees.