

Why is it so many people don't pray, or have a great prayer life?

- 1) We're not sure <u>**HOW**</u> to pray.
- 2) We get **DISTRACTED** while praying.
- 3) We think our requests are **<u>TOO SMALL</u>** for God.
- 4) We're not sure our prayers will make a **<u>DIFFERENCE</u>**.

Prayer is simply **<u>COMMUNICATING WITH GOD</u>**.

- Give ear to me words, O Lord. Consider my sighing." Psalm 5:1
 - "Listen to my cry for help, my King and my God, for to You I pray." Verse 2
 - "In the morning, O Lord, you hear my voice." Verse 3
- God <u>HEARS OUR VOICE</u>!
 - "In the morning, I lay my requests before You and wait in <u>expectation</u>." Verse 3

4 simple ways to talk to God:

- Be <u>HONEST</u>.
 - "O Lord, why have you brought trouble upon this people? Is that why you sent me?" Ever since I went to Pharaoh to speak in your name, he has brought trouble upon this people, and you have not rescued your people at all." Exodus 5:22-23
 - 2 things Jesus criticized about people's prayers:
 - A) When they are too lengthy for **SHOW PURPOSES**.
 - B) When they are **NOT AUTHENTIC**.
 - "And when you pray, do <u>not be like the hypocrites</u>, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by men." Matthew 6:5
 - *"When you pray, do <u>not keep on babbling</u> like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their <u>many words</u>." Matthew 6:7*
- 2) Talk to God about everything that **MATTERS** to you.
 - "Do not be anxious about anything, but in <u>everything</u>, by <u>prayer & petition</u>, with <u>thanksgiving</u>, present <u>your requests to God</u>." Philippians 4:6
- 3) Talk to God CONTINUALLY.
 - *"Pray continually." I Thessalonians 5:17*
 - *"I never pray for more than 20 minutes at a time, but I also never go more than 20 minutes without praying."* Smith Wigglesworth
 - P.U.S.H. PRAY UNTIL SOMETHING HAPPENS.
- 4) Listen for GOD'S RESPONSE.