

CLASS

LESSON NUMBER

297 A

THOUGHT PROVOKING BIBLE STUDIES



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MY NAME

DATE

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THERAUPETIC NATURE OF PRAYER

1. **A Definition** Therapy relates to *the treatment of bodily, mental, or behavioral disorders by remedial agents or methods*. We know that the (Jas 5:16) "*effectual fervent _____ of a _____ man availeth _____.*" Prayer is the examination, introspection, and outpouring of the petitioner's intimate and utmost concerns to (God) a faithful, trusted confidant and recipient. It is soothing and healing. Why? Prayer allows one to analyze, put his/her thoughts into coherent perspective, to unburden, to confront their thoughts directly.
2. **It Is Neglected** Prayer seems an avenue of last resort for far too many instead of an abiding and constant part of life. The command (Rom 12:12), "*continuing _____ in _____,*" is an attribute and blessing in the Christian's walk with the Lord. Too many wait until the emergency arises, the time of crisis, the moment of deep and shocking need, before they think to pray.
3. **God Already Knows Our Thoughts And Needs** Concerning material needs (Lk 12:30), "*your Father _____ that ye have _____ of _____ things.*" Jesus said: (Lk 16:15) "*God _____ your _____*" and that (Mt 10:30) "*the very _____ of your _____ are all _____.*" Why are we commanded (1 Thess 5:17) to "*_____ without _____*" to a God that already knows our innermost thoughts, needs and sense of gratitude?
4. **God's Comprehension Of Our Affairs** Too often we forget (Prov 15:3) that "*the _____ of the LORD are in _____, beholding the _____ and the _____.*" Prayer is an essential human response because it gives man the outlet to acknowledge his contrition, dependence, and desire to (2 Cor 5:7) "*walk by _____*" and thus (Heb 11:6) _____ God.
5. **The Human Mind** (Prov 23:7) "*As he _____ in his _____, so is he.*" Jesus said: (Mt 12:34) "*Out of the abundance of the _____ the mouth _____.*" That's why man is to (Prov 4:23), "*Keep thy _____ with all _____; for out of it are the _____ of _____.*" If you never think about your sins, you'll never repent and pray for forgiveness. If you are oblivious to the distress and peril of others, you'll never (1 Tim 2:1) make "*intercessions*" for "*all _____.*" If you take the blessings of life for granted, you'll never pray an appreciative prayer of thanksgiving. Our Father knows what you think already but wants you to (Phil 4:6) "*by _____*" to "*let your requests _____ _____ God.*"
6. **Why?** If you don't think about God, you won't pray to God. He wants you to pray to Him because he desires that you (Deut 8:18) "*_____ the LORD thy God.*" That's why partaking the Lord's Supper is so very important. It is a remembrance. Jesus said (1 Cor 11:24-25), "*this do in _____ of me.*" It is therapeutic to remember God because we, like Abraham, (Jas 2:23) feel secure and take consolation in being "*the _____ of God.*" If you think often about pleasing God you will automatically think often about improving your conduct and priorities, asking for (Jas 1:5) _____. Remember the old saying? "*Out of sight, out of mind.*"