

PRAYING THE BIBLE

WHAT IS PRAYING THE WORD OF GOD?

Praying the Word is **using the Word of God to talk to God**—turning the Word of God into conversation with Him.

Praying the Word is **speaking the Scriptures back to God** in 1st and 2nd person—**bringing our heart to a Person, Jesus, through the aid of Scripture** so we don't just interact with the Bible on an intellectual level but experience life-giving interaction with Jesus.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN STUDYING THE BIBLE AND PRAYING THE BIBLE?

Bible study enriches the mind to grow in **truth**. Praying the Word enlarges the heart to grow in **love** for God.

Bible study gives **knowledge about Jesus**. Praying the Word builds **intimacy with Jesus**.

Praying the Word positions our heart to **encounter God in His Word** and to experience the love and transformative power of Jesus as we draw near and dialogue with Him through the inspired Word of God.

WHY PRAY THE WORD?

The central figure in Scripture is Jesus, and a powerful way to **grow in passion for Jesus** is by praying the Word of God.

God wants us to **know Him** and grow in love for Him, not just have information about Him.

Praying the Word of God **transforms us into the likeness of Jesus** and **renews our mind** so that we think like Jesus thinks.

Praying the Word **enlarges our heart's capacity to love God** as we receive His love, life, peace and joy.

Psalm 1:1-3 – Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.

Joshua 1:7b, 8 – being careful to do according to all the law ... Do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may have good success wherever you go. This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but

you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.

John 5:39 – You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me, yet you refuse to come to me that you may have life.

HOW TO PRAY THE WORD OF GOD

Scripture to Believe: God renews our mind in truth as we pray the Word in thanksgiving and declaration.

2 Corinthians 5:17 – Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

Prayer: *“Lord, thank You that I am a new creation in Christ. Thank You that the old has passed away and the new has come. Lord, I repent for believing any lies that I’m not new or clean in Your sight. Give me revelation of this truth. Write it on my heart, O God.”*

Scripture to Obey: God releases empowering grace to walk in obedience as we pray the Word.

Ephesians 4:29 – Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.

Prayer: *“Lord, I repent for sinning with my words. Empower me to obey this verse. Let no unwelcome words come out of my mouth. Holy Spirit, anoint me to speak words of life that build others up.”*

Scripture for Intercession: Praying the Word of God over people, cities, nations and circumstances releases the power and grace of God to intervene and bring transformation.

2 Corinthians 4:3-4, 6 – And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God... For God, who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Pray this verse over people by name who do not know Jesus.

Pray Psalm 103:1-4 – Read a verse and then pray it back to God.

Psalm 103:1 – Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name! Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits ...

Prayer: *“I bless You, Lord, with all my soul and forget none of Your benefits.”*

Psalm 103:3 – who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases ...

Prayer: *“Thank You that You forgive all my sins. Forgive me Lord for _____. Thank You that You heal all my diseases. Lord, heal _____.”*

Psalm 103:4 – who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy ...

Prayer: "Thank You for redeeming my life from the pit. You crown me today with love and mercy and great compassion. I give You every place of discouragement in my heart. In its place, I receive Your joy, Your hope and Your strength."

Continue with the remainder of Psalm 103.

Pray Psalm 103:1-4 a second time **intercession** over another person, family, city or nation.

Pray Ephesians 1:3-13 – Read a verse and then pray it back to God.

Ephesians 1:3 – Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places ...

Prayer: "I bless You, My God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Thank You for blessing us with every spiritual blessing through Jesus."

Ephesians 1:4-6 – even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.

Prayer: "Lord thank You for choosing me before the foundation of the world that by Your gift of righteousness I stand holy and blameless before You. In Your perfect love you made me a son/daughter through Jesus to fulfill the purpose of Your will to the praise of Your glorious grace with which You have blessed me in Your Beloved Son Jesus. Fill me again today with your perfect love and release upon me Your empowering grace."

Ephesians 1:7-10 – In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

Prayer: "_____."

Ephesians 1:11-12 – In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory.

Prayer: "_____."

Ephesians 1:13 – In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit.

Prayer: "_____."

Pray Ephesians 1:3-13 a second time **intercession** over another person, family, city or nation.