

APPROACH GOD WHEN IN NEED!

By: Andrew W Roebert

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1. IT IS IMPORTANT TO PRAY

- Prayer is a wonderful weapon that we can use.
- Prayer is nothing other than talking to God.
- As we pray, we are approaching God and reminding Him of our needs and condition.
- Prayer is also an expression of our faith and trust in God and at the same time it is an expression of our expectation.
- Prayer needs to become a vital component of our Christian lives.
- Today, whatever your need may be, bring it to God and talk to Him.
- He is ready and willing to hear and He wants to move on our behalf.

2. AN ALTERNATIVE TO WORRY

- God gives us an alternative to worry and stress.
- We worry about things for the simple reason that they are important to us.
- Worry and stress (or what the Bible calls fretting) is the curse of this age. Many people battle in this area and sometimes it feels like a cage from which one cannot escape.
- It is difficult to simply stop worrying.
- What we need to do is to substitute the worrying with something else.
- This is where prayer comes in!
- Philippians 4:6 Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything.
- To worry is to have something that is plaguing our minds and hearts. It includes being anxious and fretting, or becoming unduly concerned.
- Right here we need to make this great exchange and INSTEAD of worry, anxiety, and fretting, begin to pray.
- Philippians 4:6 Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything.

3. TELL GOD YOUR NEEDS

- I often get requests from people in which they ask me how to pray.
- The church, through the ages, has complicated this simple matter.
- Prayer is nothing more than talking to God.
- God wants us to do this. He is waiting for us to approach Him with our needs and the desires of our hearts.
- Nothing can be hidden from God and when we pray we can with confidence remind God as we speak out our need to Him.
- Philippians 4:6 Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything; TELL GOD YOUR NEEDS, and don't forget to thank Him for His answers. (Living Bible)
- What needs are facing or challenging you today?
- Speak out those needs to God in prayer.

4. PRESENTING OUR REQUESTS TO GOD

- In another translation of the Bible it mentions that we can present our needs to God.
- Philippians 4:6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, PRESENT YOUR REQUESTS TO GOD. (NIV)
- This is something that we can also do.
- When we present something to God, it means that we bring (our requests) or introduce (our needs) into the presence of the One who knows us intimately, cares for us deeply and the One who is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we could ask or think.
- It can also mean to lay before Him or to place at His feet.
- In that moment we make our dependency clear – we are going to depend on God in this matter.
- We are pointing, aiming and directing ourselves towards God.

5. DEFINITE REQUESTS

- When we approach God with our needs and longings we have the joy of knowing that He knows and as such we can be specific and have definite requests.
- Years ago I remember reading a book by Pastor Yongi Cho, in which he mentioned how he had a need and asked God specifically for a particular answer, and the Lord provided right down to the correct colour of the item he had requested. If God could do it for that pastor, then He can and wants to do it for you and for me.
- Philippians 4:6 Do not fret *or* have any anxiety about anything, but in every circumstance *and* in everything, by prayer and petition (definite requests), with thanksgiving, continue to make your wants known to God. (Amplified)
- A petition is a formal written request given to someone who has the power to grant such a request.
- We can petition God because He is able.

6. WATCH FOR THE ANSWERS and BE THANKFUL

- This involves being expectant.
- Expectation is part of our faith.
- We must be alert and expecting God to answer and respond to our prayers, requests, petitions and expressed desires.
- You do not watch for something that you do not anticipate will arrive.
- You watch for those things that you know are on the way!
- Colossians 4:2 Don't be weary in prayer; keep at it; watch for God's answers, and remember to be thankful when they come.
- As God begins to answer our prayers we must not just take it for granted. We must be thankful. Thankfulness is highlighted over and over in scripture and it is for the simple reason that it is important and God is looking for thankful people.
- Let your expectation rise as we approach God with our needs and the longing of our hearts.

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These notes may be shared with others.

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