

Prayer and the Bible



How to Pray Well...

Abbot John Chapman says:

“Pray as you can, and don’t try to pray as you cannot. Take yourself as you find yourself.

The only way to pray is to pray; and the way to pray well is to pray much. The less one prays the worse it goes...”



How to Pray Well...

Abbot John Chapman says:

“Begin wherever you find yourself. Make any acts you want to make and feel you ought to make, but do not force yourself into feelings of any kind.

Do not worry about what you should think or feel; if your intention is to cling to Him, you're praying well...”



How to Pray Well...

Abbot John Chapman says:

“Do not mind if you do not feel love of God or if you feel commotion or rebellion. Just pray that you may give yourself to God as you are; and try to want what He wants.

Minimize what happens in your own soul and maximize God’s love for you...”



How to Pray Well...

Abbot John Chapman says:

“Do not try to be simple, God does that for you. Your part is: a) to think of others b) to be with God c) to despise thinking about your own ‘spiritual state.’

Simply be what God enables you to be at this moment.”





Abraham

“Some time after these events, this word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision: "Fear not, Abram! I am your shield; I will make your reward very great." But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what good will your gifts be, if I keep on being childless and have as my heir the steward of my house, Eliezer?" Abram continued, "See, you have given me no offspring, and so one of my servants will be my heir..."



Abraham

“Then the word of the LORD came to him: “No, that one shall not be your heir; your own issue shall be your heir.” He took him outside and said: “Look up at the sky and count the stars, if you can. Just so,” he added, “shall your descendants be.”



Moses

"Why do you treat your servant so badly?"

Moses asked the LORD. "Why are you so displeased with me that you burden me with all this people? Was it I who conceived all this people? or was it I who gave them birth, that you tell me to carry them at my bosom, like a foster father carrying an infant, to the land you have promised under oath to their fathers...?"



Moses

“Where can I get meat to give to all this people? For they are crying to me, 'Give us meat for our food.' I cannot carry all this people by myself, for they are too heavy for me. If this is the way you will deal with me, then please do me the favor of killing me at once, so that I need no longer face this distress...”





Moses

“Then the LORD said to Moses, “Assemble for me seventy of the elders of Israel, men you know for true elders and authorities among the people, and bring them to the meeting tent. When they are in place beside you, I will come down and speak with you there. I will also take some of the spirit that is on you and will bestow it on them, that they may share the burden of the people with you. You will then not have to bear it by yourself.”



Gideon

“The LORD turned to him and said, “Go with the strength you have and save Israel from the power of Midian. It is I who send you.”

But he answered him, “Please, my Lord, how can I save Israel? My family is the least in Manasseh, and I am the most insignificant in my father's house...”



Gideon

"I shall be with you," the LORD said to him, "and you will cut down Midian to the last man." He answered him, "If I find favor with you, give me a sign that you are speaking with me. Do not depart from here, I pray you, until I come back to you and bring out my offering and set it before you." He answered, "I will await your return..."



Gideon

"I shall be with you," the LORD said to him, "and you will cut down Midian to the last man." He answered him, "If I find favor with you, give me **a sign** that you are speaking with me. Do not depart from here, I pray you, until I come back to you and bring out my offering and set it before you." He answered, "I will await your return..."



Gideon

“So Gideon went off and prepared a kid and an ephah of flour in the form of unleavened cakes. Putting the meat in a basket and the broth in a pot, he brought them out to him under the terebinth and presented them. The angel of God said to him, "Take the meat and unleavened cakes and lay them on this rock; then pour out the broth." When he had done so...”



Gideon

“The angel of the LORD stretched out the tip of the staff he held, and touched the meat and unleavened cakes. Thereupon a fire came up from the rock which consumed the meat and unleavened cakes, and the angel of the LORD disappeared from sight...”





Gideon

“Gideon said to God, “If indeed you are going to save Israel through me, as you promised, I am putting this woolen fleece on the threshing floor. If dew comes on the fleece alone, while all the ground is dry, I shall know that you will save Israel through me, as you promised.” That is what took place. Early the next morning he wrung the dew from the fleece, squeezing out of it a bowlful of water...”



Gideon

“Gideon then said to God, “Do not be angry with me if I speak once more. Let me make just one more test with the fleece. Let the fleece alone be dry, but let there be dew on all the ground. That night God did so; the fleece alone was dry, but there was dew on all the ground.”





David

“Have mercy on me, God, in your goodness; in your abundant compassion blot out my offense. Wash away all my guilt; from my sin cleanse me. For I know my offense; my sin is always before me. Against you alone have I sinned; I have done such evil in your sight; That you are just in your sentence, blameless when you condemn...”





David

“True, I was born guilty, a sinner, even as my mother conceived me. Still, you insist on sincerity of heart; in my inmost being teach me wisdom. Cleanse me with hyssop, that I may be pure; wash me, make me whiter than snow. Let me hear sounds of joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice...”





David

“Turn away your face from my sins; blot out all my guilt. A clean heart create for me, God; renew in me a steadfast spirit. Do not drive me from your presence, nor take from me your holy spirit. Restore my joy in your salvation; sustain in me a willing spirit...”





David

“I will teach the wicked your ways, that sinners may return to you. Rescue me from death, God, my saving God, that my tongue may praise your healing power. Lord, open my lips; my mouth will proclaim your praise. For you do not desire sacrifice; a burnt offering you would not accept. My sacrifice, God, is a broken spirit; God, do not spurn a broken, humbled heart.”



When you pray...

“...do not be like the hypocrites, who love to stand and pray in the synagogues and on street corners so that others may see them. Amen, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you pray, go to your inner room, close the door, and pray to your Father in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will repay you...”



When you pray...

“...do not babble like the pagans, who think that they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them. Your Father knows what you need before you ask him...”



When you pray...

"This is how you are to pray:

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread;

**and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our
debtors;**

and do not subject us to the final test,

but deliver us from the evil one."

When you pray...

**"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.'
But I say to you, love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your heavenly Father."**



When you pray...

“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I say to you, love your enemies, and *pray for those who persecute you*, that you may be children of your heavenly Father.”

“Father, forgive them, they don’t know what they are doing.”



When you pray...

“Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives; and the one who seeks, finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened...”



When you pray...

“...Which one of you would hand his son a stone when he asks for a loaf of bread, or a snake when he asks for a fish? If you then, who are wicked, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give good things to those who ask him.”

(Luke says: “give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him.”)



The Three Kings



AsKing

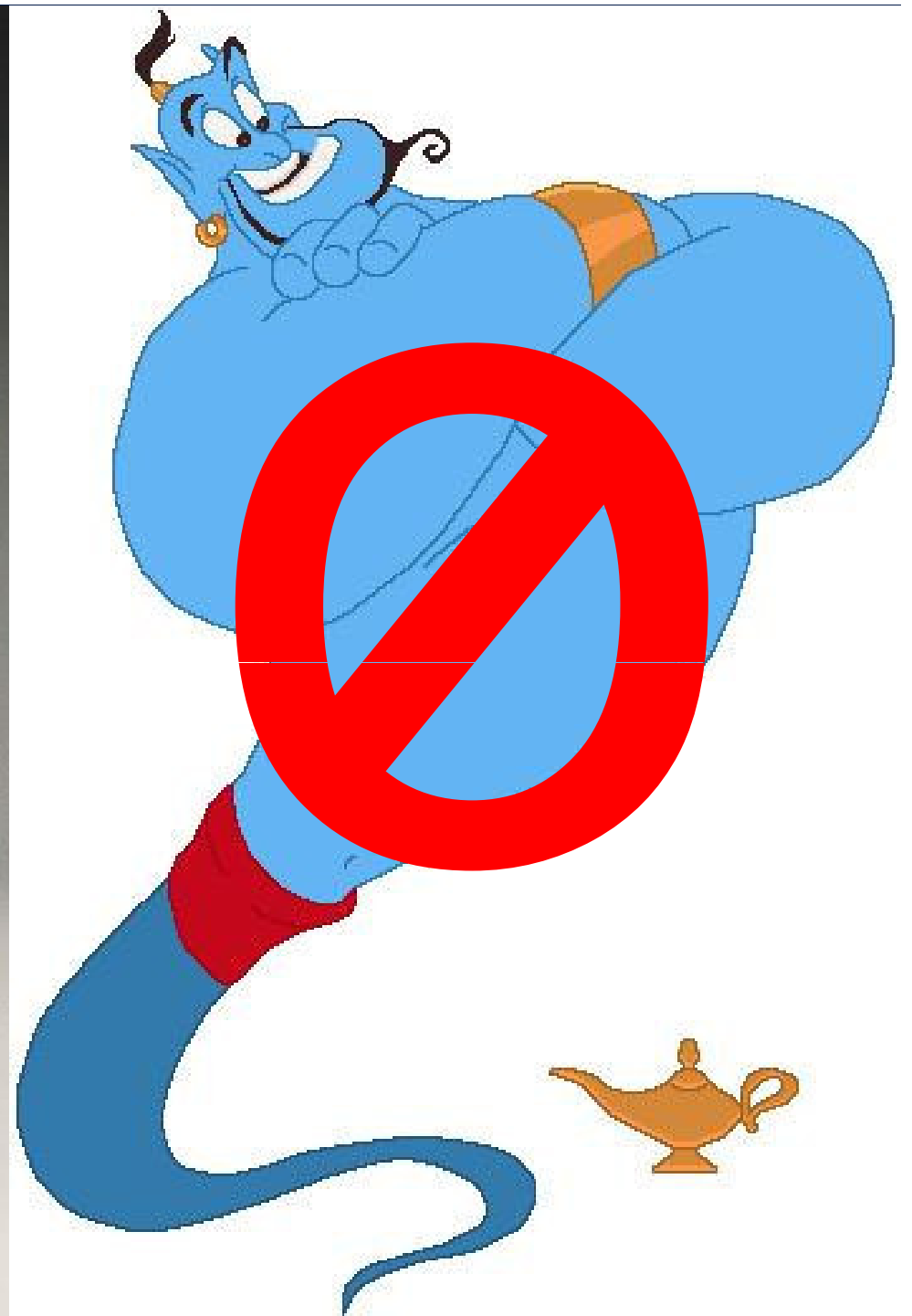
SeeKing

KnockKing

When you Pray...

“Again, (amen,) I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything for which they are to pray, it shall be granted to them by my heavenly Father. For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.”





When you pray...

“Then he told them a parable about the necessity for them to pray always without becoming weary. He said, “There was a judge in a certain town who neither feared God nor respected any human being. And a widow in that town used to come to him and say, ‘Render a just decision for me against my adversary.’ For a long time the judge was unwilling, but eventually he thought, ‘While it is true that I neither fear God nor respect any human being...”



When you pray...

“...because this widow keeps bothering me I shall deliver a just decision for her lest she finally come and strike me.’ The Lord said, “Pay attention to what the dishonest judge says. Will not God then secure the rights of his chosen ones who call out to him day and night? Will he be slow to answer them?””



Submission/Surrender

“After withdrawing about a stone's throw from them and kneeling, he prayed, saying, “Father, if you are willing, take this cup away from me; still, not my will but yours be done.” – Luke 22:41-42

“Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.” - Luke 23:46



Types of Prayer

- **A**doration / Praise
- **C**ontrition / Confession
- **T**hanksgiving
- **S**upplication / Petition

