

# Praying for each other

Prayer is simply talking to our Father in heaven. He made us to speak to Him. That's part of the wonder of prayer. When we pray, we place God in his Proper position. He is the Creator who controls this world, and who makes things happen. We are just creatures, and therefore we need to depend on God. That is why we pray. Below is a simple structure in helping us to pray. It's called the ACTS method.

## **A C T S method**

A = Adoration

C = Confession

T = Thanksgiving

S = Supplication (or asking)

### Adoration

Means to adore, worship, praise and to tell how great God is. Trying to think about who God is. ie God's character- his power, his justice, his mercy. Sometimes read from Psalms. This reminds us that we are small and God is big.

### Confession

This leads to confessing our sin. Even though we've been forgiven through Jesus, we still sin. So we need to come to God and tell him that we've failed and stuffed up, and to ask him to help us turn from those sins.

### Thanksgiving

There is so much to thank God for, especially for what Jesus has done for us. Heaps of things to thank God for:

answered prayers, our church (leaders, pastors etc), the country we live, our daily needs, education, Christian groups, work/jobs we have, friends, families, freedom in our country, the weather, and so and so on. Think about everything you do every day- it is from the hand of God!!

### Supplication

This is asking God for various things. Doing this last helps to avoid praying 'give me' prayers all the time. Pray for yourself and pray for others eg.

things that you learned in the Bible to apply, to grow as a Christian for non Christian friends to be saved, for opportunities to talk to people about Jesus, for family, exams, work, the prime minister, teachers at school, our minister, leaders at church, bible study group, schools ministry, people who have been sick, the war, missionaries, pray for the world (Operation World), leaders of other nations, church requests, the elderly, current news events, our own godliness, to love others, to persevere in faith, for church events, for Bible colleges, for Christian groups at uni/TAFE.

The list is endless. Think widely and broadly rather than just in our own patch around us. Think SWITCH, Australia, then the world!!!

Have a look at what Paul prays eg. Col 1:9-14, Phil 1:9-11, Eph 1:15-23, 3:14-21, 2 Thess 1:11-12

Look how Jesus prays in the Lords prayer and other prayers in the Old Testament eg Neh 1:4-11 and 2 Sam 7:18-29

Obviously you're not going to pray all these things every day!!! But maybe you can choose a couple of these things to pray for each day.

Remember, what prayer is. It is talking to the Almighty Creator of this world, who deserves your honour and respect. If we ask, we need to have faith that He will answer them in his timing and possibly in ways that we'd never imagine!!!

Make time to pray. Pray when you read the Bible, pray through out the day.

So now lets pray!!!