

Welcome to Hope Sabbath School—an in-depth interactive study of the Word of God. We are continuing our series on Growing in your relationship with God. Today's topic: PRACTICAL LESSONS ABOUT PRAYER.

1) Praying in a crisis

- a. 1 Kings 18:37 What are your thoughts about Elijah's prayer at a time of crisis for the nation of Israel?
- b. How did the LORD God respond to Elijah's simple prayer and what was the response of the people gathered on Mount Carmel? 1 Kings 18:38
- c. How did Elijah pray in a time of personal crisis following the showdown on Mount Carmel? 1 Kings 19:1-4
- d. How did the LORD God respond to this prayer by Elijah? 1 Kings 19:5-18
- e. What does this story teach us both about prayer and about the character of our prayer-answering God?

2) When prayers seem unanswered

- a. What apparent delayed answer to his prayer did Elijah the prophet experience? 1 Kings 18:41-45
- b. Sometimes God's answer to our prayer is "No". When did God say "No" to a prayer of Elijah? (1 Kings 19:4)
- c. Share a time when you experienced a delayed answer to your prayer or a negative answer from

3) Lessons about prayer from Jesus

- a. What practical instruction did Jesus give regarding prayer? Matthew 6:5-8

- b. How did Jesus respond to the request of His disciples who wanted to learn how to pray? Luke 11:1-4
- c. The Lord's Prayer begins with praise. Why is praise to God an important part of our prayer time with God? Psalm 18:3, 100:4, 9:1-2, 92:1-2, etc.
- d. What other important elements do you see in the Lord's Prayer?
- e. What can we learn from the words of Jesus recorded in Matthew 6:9?
- f. What can we learn about how to pray from the prayers of Jesus? Luke 10:21-22, John 11:41-42, Luke 22:41-42, John 17, Luke 6:12, etc.

4) More practical lessons about prayer

- a. What lessons about prayer can we learn from the following admonitions of the Apostle Paul? Colossians 4:2, 1 Thessalonians 5:17, Ephesians 6:18
- b. What other practical lessons about prayer have you found in the Scriptures? Ezra 10:1, Nehemiah 1:4-11, Daniel 9:3-19, etc.
- c. Share a time of prayer that was especially meaningful for you.
- d. How might your prayer time with God change in response to our study today?

