



ACTS 2:42

“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.”

How did we get access to prayer as we know it?

Recall the veil? (Matt 27:51; Heb. 4:14-16; 10:19-22)

Can we get by without it? No. (See John 15:5)

Jesus didn't attempt it. Heroes of the faith and the 'ordinary' followers wouldn't think of it.

Scripture commands it (Eph. 6:18)

And in matters of faith, who just wants to get by?



FROM DISTRACTION TO
TRACTION:
THE PRECIOUS
PRIVILEGE OF PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

Is The Lord's Prayer to be our only prayer?

No, Jesus' own prayer life varied, as did the prayers of countless men and women of God in Scripture.

Does this set the standard for length?

Apparently not, considering the pattern we see in Scripture. Some prayers are longer, some are shorter.

LOOKING BACK VSS. 5-8

Vs. 5 Is public prayer disallowed?

No. This addresses a heart issue.

Vs. 6 Is a private place of prayer to be a norm?

Absolutely. See Luke 5:16

Vss. 7-8 Is mindless babbling helpful?

No. God knows. Not sure how to pray? Rom. 8:26-27

SO THEN, PRAY IN A MANNER LIKE THIS...

Vs. 9

All eyes on Him

(NOT on the things of earth. Recall Peter, Matt. 14:22-33)

Who He is (our Loving Father)

His position of authority (Ps. 2; Isa. 40:28)

With an attitude of full submission before the One whose
very name is holy (Prov. 3:5-6)



Vs. 10

His Kingdom, not ours, is top priority

Matt. 26:36-44

Seeking His will to be done here as There.

How is His will done There? Fully



Vs. 11

(Note change in focus from God to our deep needs:
daily bread, forgiveness and deliverance)

Acknowledges God as our Source of every need

Indicates daily reliance (See also Ex. 16) and displays
trust in Him



Vs. 12

Acknowledges our desperate need of God's forgiveness and our need to forgive others.

"Forgiving as we have been forgiven"

Eph. 4:32; Col. 3:13

This, too, is to be a regular part of our prayer life



Vs. 13

Acknowledges the reality of the spiritual battle and
our absolute reliance on God in it

Ephesians 6:10-20

1 Peter 5:8; 1 Cor. 10:12-13

(See also James 1:13-15)