**Some practical ways and principles for prayer:**

Prayer is our primary source of communication with Jesus. It is the method by which we can do it in a particular situation or condition:

* There is public prayer- Private prayer Individual Prayer- Corporate prayer.
* Long prayers-Short prayers, Standing prayers - Sitting down prayers.
* Laying on your face prayers, while you walk prayers.
* The prayer of faith, the prayer of petition, the prayer of intercession
The prayer of submission, the prayer of repentance etc.
* And, our prayer must be offered In: Humility, Faith, Obedience, Righteousness -Whole heartedness.

**When you pray,**

Expose yourself to God. Notice that Hannah “poured out her heart before the Lord” (I Samuel 1:15), Hannah prayed, and God gave her a son. Hannah was completely open toward God. Here are some points for effective prayer; when you pray follow these steps:

1. Give thanks.
2. Ask forgiveness.
3. Tell Jesus our thoughts, feelings, fears, and frustrations.
4. Ask for help, healing, comfort, protection, etc.
5. Pray for others.

**Some scripture references: -**

* “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (I John 1:9).
* “If my people who are called by My name will humble themselves and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked way” (II Chron. 7:14).
* “Call unto me, I will answer” (Jer. 33:3).
* "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; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened." -- Matthew 7:7-8 (NIV)
* "You do not have, because you do not ask God." - James 4:2 (NIV)
For example:- People will do all kind of things to gain God’s favor and receive their answers, especially when they are in great need or in extreme danger.
* But we need to ask in faith. "But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. That man should not think he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all he does." - James 1:6-8 (NIV)
"And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him." - Hebrews 11:6 (NIV)
* We ask in Jesus’ name. Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete. - John 16:24 (NIV)
* Eph. 6:18 Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;
* Acts 1:14 These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren.
* Acts 6:4 But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word.
* Acts 10 Cornelius was praying in his house and an angel appeared to him & told him to send for Peter. Peter was praying and saw a vision, At the same time the men Cornelius sent for him were knocking at the gate, The Spirit said (go with them nothing doubting for I have sent them. Because Cornelius prayed and Because Peter Prayed,
* And (James 5:16).

**Praying for others**

Prayer has to be a big priority in order for us to have good relationships with God and others. In 1st Timothy 2:8 Paul referred to the good relationships we will build with others as we unite in prayer.

* Through prayer we are given an overview concerning our brothers and sisters, we are able to see where they are weak, and through prayer we are able to intercede and fight for them until they regain their strength.
* We should pray for all saints everywhere that they would receive a revelation of all that God has provided for them through Christ.
* We should pray for the ministry, (pastors, teachers, evangelists, etc.) that they could speak boldly and proclaim the liberating truths of the gospel. (Eph. 6:19-20)

**Closing: -**

**Revelation 5:6-9a**

**6**And between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders I saw a Lamb standing, as though it had been slain, with seven horns and with seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. **7**And he went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who was seated on the throne. **8**And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. **9**And they sang a new song,