



**PRAYING**  
**in the SPIRIT**

**Did Christ, at any  
time in history,  
come in the same  
way in a cloud?**



## **1 Th 4:16-17**

**For the Lord Himself will come down from heaven... and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive ... will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air.**

**Christ is coming  
back very soon!  
Be ready for it!**

**Rev 22:7**

**Behold, I am coming soon!**  
**Do not seal up the words of**  
**the prophecy of this Book,**  
**because the time is near...**  
**Behold, I am coming soon!**

**Rev 22:20**

He who testifies to these things says, **“Yes, I am coming soon.”** Amen.  
Come, Lord Jesus.

**1 Cor 16:22**

**Come, O Lord!**  
**MARANATHA**

**Lk 18:9** To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everybody else, Jesus told this parable: **10** Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. **11** The Pharisee stood up and prayed about himself: “God, I thank you that I am not like other men – robbers, evildoers, adulterers – or even like this tax collector. **12** I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.” **13** But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, “God, have mercy on me, [the] sinner.” **14** I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.



# WRONG WAY TO PRAY

1

Self-centred  
Self-righteous  
Self-promoting

# **What the Pharisee did Right**

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- 1) Adopted right practice of going to Temple to pray (v.9)**
- 2) Practised marital fidelity – not an adulterer; upheld ethics – didn't commit robbery (v.11)**
- 3) Fasted twice a week (v.12)**
- 4) Paid tithes for his wealth and for the gifts he received**

# WRONG WAY TO PRAY

1

prayed **about** himself (NIV)

prayed **to** himself (NASB)

## **Mt 6:5**

**when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites ...for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen... they have received their reward in full**

## **Mt 6:7**

**when you pray, do not pray like the pagans ... for they think they will be heard because of their many words**

# **RIGHT WAY TO PRAY**

**2**

**He stood at a distance (v.13a)**

**He would not even look up to heaven (v.13b)**

**He beat his breast and cried: “God, have mercy on me, [the] sinner” (v.13c)**

# The Principle

[The Publican], rather than [the Pharisee], went home justified before God. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted (v.14).



**1 Cor 14:15**  
**Eph 6:18**  
**Jude 20**



# 1 Corinthians 14:15 (NLT)



Well then, what shall I do? I will do both. I will **pray in the spirit**, and I will **pray in words I understand**. I will sing in the spirit, and I will sing in words I understand.

**1 Cor 12:1**

**Now about spiritual gifts... I do  
not want you to be ignorant**

# **1 Corinthians 14:15 (NLT)**



**Different kinds of gifts (12:4)**  
**Different kinds of service (12:5)**  
**Different kinds of working (12:6)**

**1 Cor 12:7**

**to each one** the manifestation  
of the Spirit **is given** for the  
common good.

# Gifts of the Holy Spirit

<sup>1</sup>the message of wisdom; <sup>2</sup>the message of knowledge; <sup>3</sup>gifts of healing; <sup>4</sup>faith; <sup>5</sup>miraculous powers; <sup>6</sup>prophecy; <sup>7</sup>distinguishing between spirits; <sup>8</sup>speaking in different kinds of tongues; <sup>9</sup>interpretation of tongues.

**1 Cor 12:18**

**But in fact God has arranged  
the parts in the body, every  
one of them, **just as He  
wanted them to be.****

**1 Cor 12:25**

...there should be **no division**  
in the Body, but that its parts  
should have **equal concern**  
**for each other.**

**1 Cor 12:31**

And now I will show you the  
most **excellent way**...



## **1 Cor 14:6**

**Now brothers, if I come to you and speak in tongues, what good will I be to you, unless I bring you some revelation or knowledge or prophecy or word of instruction?**

**1 Cor 14:40**

**But everything should  
be done in a fitting and  
orderly way.**

## **Rom 8:26 (ESV)**

**...the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. And [God] who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.**

# **Ephesians 6:18 (NIV)**



**Pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.**

# Ephesians 6:18 (NIV)



Main clause: pray in the spirit

Subordinate phrases: at all times & with all kinds of prayers

# Ephesians 6:18 (NIV)



## Praying in Spirit

an **attitude** in which the praying Christian rises to an intensely penetrating atmosphere created by the Spirit

# Ephesians 6:18 (NIV)



Praying in the Spirit

**Spirit-inspired, Christ-centred, God-pleasing**

# **Ephesians 6:18 (NIV)**



**Occasions of Prayer**



# Ephesians 6:18 (NIV)



**Variety of Prayer**

# Ephesians 6:18 (NIV)



**Manner of Prayer**

# Ephesians 6:18 (NIV)



**Indirect Objects of Prayer**

# **Ephesians 6:18 (NIV)**



**Prayer for Paul**

# CHALLENGE

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- 1. Pray in the Spirit**
- 2. Pray for ourselves**
- 3. Pray for the saints**
- 4. Come to MM**