

Adoration-Worship

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I. Adoration or worship is the first step in prayer.

A. Worship usually focuses with the greatness and majesty of God. (Isaiah 40:25-26; Revelation 1:14-17; Revelation 4:9-11; Revelation 5:11-14)

B. It is important to worship on a daily basis for who He is, no matter our circumstances.

II. Confession is necessary element of prayer because it recognizes our relationship to Him as Judge and honors His holiness.

A. Confession begins with the recognition that God is the judge of the universe and we are sinners. (Romans 14:12; 1 Corinthians 11:31-32; James 2:12-13)

B. God is both our Judge and our Father through Christ.

C. Confession acknowledges that we are sinful and acknowledges our specific sins. (1 John 1:8-10)

a. "Confess" means to agree with God in his assessment with no excuses or hiding and in real repentance and sorrow. (Psalm 32:5; Psalm 51:4, 17)

b. Confession should be a daily habit upon realizing our sin.

III. Thanksgiving is a natural product of confession and acknowledges his provision for us spiritually and physically. (Psalm 100:4-5; Psalm 103:2-5; Psalm 106:1-2, 7; Psalm 107:1, 8, 15, 21, 31)

A. Sometimes our supplications are not effective because we do not come into God's presence with the right attitude (the first 3 steps).

B. God is aware of our lack of thanksgiving. (Luke 17:11-17)

C. Take time to thank God.

IV. Supplication acknowledges God's power to answer our prayers as king of the universe and His desire to respond to us as our Father.

A. We acknowledge our insufficiency and God's power to work in our circumstances. (Luke 11:5ff)

B. Supplication consists of 3 parts.

1. Our personal needs.

2. The needs of others

3. The extension and building up of God's church. (Matthew 6:10)

- a) We as Christians need to pay attention to and pray for God's work in the whole world. (Psalm 2:8; Revelation 5)
- b) Ask God to send out workers. (Matthew 9:37-38)
- c) Pray for open doors for ministry. (Colossians 4:3)
- d) Pray for clarity and efficacy in sharing the gospel. (Colossians 4:4)

IV. It is a privilege that we are able to come into the throne room of God and have fellowship with Him. Prayer is our highest privilege and our most solemn duty.

Application questions:

1. What aspect of prayer is the easiest for you to practice? Which is the most difficult? How can you make a point to include it more in your prayer life?

2. Jerry talked a lot about praying for the extension and building up of God's church around the world. How can you be more aware of the prayer needs of the church around the world?

3. Try to find some time to research another nation. What is the main religion? How many Christians are there? How many missionaries are there? How can you pray for that nation?
