

# ***Steps To Christ***

## **Study Guides**

### **Chapter 11**

### **A Knowledge of God**

## Lesson Preparation

1. Memorize Acts 4:12, NJKV.

“Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

2. Read *Steps to Christ*, Chapter 11.
3. Put in your own words, or write the passage in Chapter 11, that best describes the theme of the chapter.



4. List several key points as you read the chapter.



## Scriptures (NKJV)

### 1. What should be done before praying for our needs?

Matthew 6:33. "But seek first the \_\_\_\_\_ and His \_\_\_\_\_, and all these things shall be added to you."

### 2. Our prayers should be asked according to what?

1 John 5:14, 15. "<sup>14</sup> Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything \_\_\_\_\_, He hears us. <sup>15</sup> And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of him."

### 3. What helps God answer our prayers?

1 John 3:22. "And whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we \_\_\_\_\_ and do those things that are pleasing in His sight."

### 4. What were David's times for prayer?

Psalms 55:17. "\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ and at \_\_\_\_\_ I will pray, and cry aloud, And He shall hear my voice."

### 5. In whose name should we pray?

John 14:13, 14. "<sup>13</sup> And whatever you ask in \_\_\_\_\_, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup> If you ask anything in My name, I will do *it*."

### 6. What should our attitude be when we pray?

Mark 11:24. "Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, \_\_\_\_\_ that ye receive *them*, and you will have *them*."

## 7. With what steadfastness should we pray?

James 1:6, 7. "6 But let him ask in [redacted], with [redacted] [redacted], for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. 7 For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord;"

## 8. How is praying described, and what are its results?

Matthew 7:7, 8. "7 [redacted], and it will be given to you; [redacted], and you will find; [redacted], and it will be opened to you. 8 For everyone who asks [redacted], and he who seeks [redacted], and to him who knocks it will be [redacted]."

## 9. What habit did Jesus have regarding prayer?

Mark 1:35. "Now in the [redacted], having risen a long while before daylight, He went out and departed to a [redacted] [redacted]; and there He prayed."

## 10. What prevents God from hearing our prayers?

Psalm 66:18. "If I [redacted] [redacted] in my heart, The Lord will not hear."

## 11. In most circumstances, what is the proper posture for prayer?

Psalm 95:6. "O come, let us worship and [redacted] [redacted]; Let us [redacted] before the LORD our Maker."

**12. What should accompany our prayers?**

Philippians 4:6. "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with [redacted], let your requests be made known to God;"

**13. What is included in the prayer for the sick?**

James 5:14-15. "<sup>14</sup>Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the [redacted] of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with [redacted] in the name of the Lord. <sup>15</sup>And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has [redacted] [redacted], he will be [redacted]."

**14. What diligence should we show with our prayers?**

1 Thessalonians 5:17. "pray without [redacted]."

**15. Who should we pray for?**

1 Timothy 2:1-2. "<sup>1</sup>Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, *and* giving of thanks be made for [redacted] [redacted], <sup>2</sup>for [redacted] and all who are in [redacted], that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence."

**16. What promise does God make regarding our need?**

Philippians 4:19. "And my God shall supply [redacted] [redacted] [redacted], according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus."

## Study Questions

1. In what four ways does God speak to us? (Paragraph 1).

2. What is prayer? (2).

3. Why is prayer necessary? (2).

4. How do the angels regard communion with God? (5).

5. What happens to those who neglect to pray? (6).

6. How is prayer described? (6).

7. Why is prayer necessary? (6).

8. What work does Satan do? (6).

9. List seven conditions to answered prayer. (7, 9, 10, 13-15, 23).

10. God will answer our prayers after what takes place? (9).

11. Why do we not always have our prayers answered at the time we ask, or receive the very things we ask for? (11).

12. Where will those who are really seeking communion with God be seen? (15).

13. What is the life of the soul? (16).

14. List three places prayer should be offered. (16).

15. Describe the manner of offering secret prayer to God. (16).

16. Is there any time or place when it is no appropriate to pray? (18).

17. What should you keep before God in prayer? (22).

18. How does God feel about the small things we ask for? (22).

19. What happens to those who do nothing but pray? Why? (24).

20. What do we need to do more of when praying? (28).

21. How is God worshipped in heaven? (32).



## Thought Questions

1. Should I always pray on my knees?

2. Why does everything go wrong when I start praying regularly?

3. Why do I need to pray? Doesn't God already know my needs?

4. Why do I need to pray for the same things every day?

5. How do I know what to pray for, and when to pray for it?

6. How do I know when to stop praying for something?

7. Does my prayer really make a difference whether someone is going to be saved?

8. I never seem to have my prayers answered. Why?

9. Should I always pray in an audible voice?

10. Should I close my eyes when I pray?

11. What does prayer do for me?

12. How can I get over feeling embarrassed when praying in public?

13. Why pray for something. Can't we just do something about it?

14. Why do I always pray less when trouble comes?

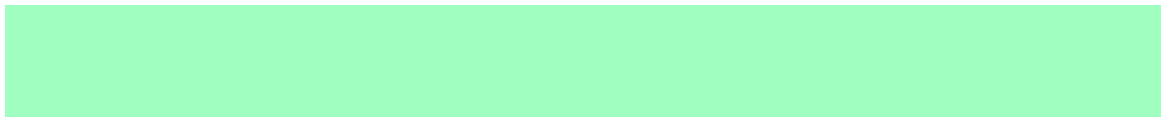
15. When I pray, my mind drifts. How can I keep it on the topics I'm praying about?



16. Should I pray when other family members don't want to?



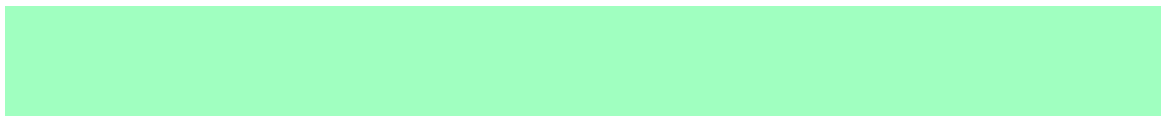
17. When we pray at family worship, my children want to sit, not kneel, during family prayer. Should I require them to kneel?



18. When I pray during worship service, what should I say?



19. How long should I spend in prayer?



20. [Add your questions].



## Problem Solving

The following person is a leader in his church. He has taught a Sabbath School class for many years, but recently he has been sharing the Scriptures in a way that raises some new and incorrect ideas about the plan of salvation and what God is like. You are worried not only for the church members who are listening, but for this person as well. He has been a long-time member, and you don't want to push him into taking a more radical stand by aggressively challenging him, but something needs to be said or done, because he is gaining quite a following. What can be done to help him and the others see the danger of these new beliefs?

Notes: (You might work with the following information: causes, options, solutions, decisions, scriptures that apply).



## Additional Exercises

1. Add three more things to your "Appreciation List."



2. Additional reading:

*Education*, pp. 253-261.

"Faith and Prayer"

*Christ's Object Lessons*, pp. 139-149.

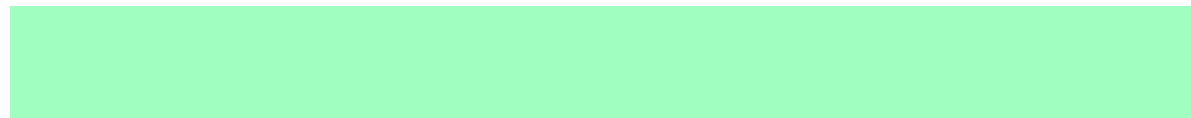
"Asking to Give"

*The Ministry of Healing*, pp. 225-233.

"Prayer for the Sick"

3. Study the difference between "faith" and "presumption."

*The Desire of Ages*. p. 126.



*Testimonies for the Church*. Vol. 4. p. 576



*Selected Messages*. book 2. pp. 17, 91, 345.



*The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*. Vol. 5. p. 1128.

*Evangelism*. p. 561

*Gospel Workers*. p. 260.

4. List two answers to prayer this past week.

5. List several of your favorite promises.

6. Describe one example of how the information learned in this chapter can help YOU in YOUR daily Christian life.

Done (if using another source to keep this information)

7. Find at least one opportunity to explain what you have learned to one or more persons.

Done

### Ellen G. White Quotations

“It is a part of God’s plan to grant us, in answer to the prayer of faith, that which He would not bestow did we not thus ask.” (*The Great Controversy*, p. 525).

“The Lord speaks; enter into your closet, and in silence commune with your own heart; listen to the voice of truth and conscience. Nothing will give such clear views of self as secret prayer. He who seeth in secret and knoweth all things will enlighten your understanding and answer your petitions. Plain, simple duties that must not be neglected will open before you. Make a covenant with God to yield yourselves and all your powers to His service.” (*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, p. 163).

“Prayer and faith are closely allied, and they need to be studied together. In the prayer of faith there is a divine science; it is a science that everyone who would make his lifework a success must understand. Christ says, ‘What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.’ Mark 11:24. He makes it plain that our asking must be according to God’s will; we must ask for the things that He has promised, and whatever we receive must be used in doing His will. The conditions met, the promise is unequivocal.

“For the pardon of sin, for the Holy Spirit, for a Christlike temper, for wisdom and strength to do His work, for any gift He has promised, we may ask; then we are to believe that we receive, and return thanks to God that we have received.

“We need look for no outward evidence of the blessing. The gift is in the promise, and we may go about our work assured that what God has promised He is able to perform, and that the gift, which we already possess, will be realized when we need it most.

“To live thus by the word of God means the surrender to Him of the whole life. There will be felt a continual sense of need and dependence, a drawing out of the heart after God. Prayer is a necessity; for it is the life of the soul. Family prayer, public prayer, have their place; but it is secret communion with God that sustains the soul life.

“It was in the mount with God that Moses beheld the pattern of that wonderful building which was to be the abiding place of His glory. It is in the mount with God—in the secret place of communion—that we are to contemplate His glorious ideal for humanity. Thus we shall be enabled so to fashion our character building that to us may be fulfilled His promise, ‘I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.’ 2 Corinthians 6:16.” (*Education*, pp. 257, 258).

“Prayer is heaven's ordained means of success in the conflict with sin and the development of Christian character. The divine influences that come in answer to the prayer of faith will accomplish in the soul of the suppliant all for which he pleads. For the pardon of sin, for the Holy Spirit, for a Christlike temper, for wisdom and strength to do His work, for any gift He has promised, we may ask; and the promise is, ‘Ye shall receive.’” (*The Acts of the Apostles*, p. 564).

“When we feel that we have sinned and cannot pray, it is then the time to pray. Ashamed we may be and deeply humbled, but we must pray and believe. ‘This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.’ 1 Timothy 1:15.” (*Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing*, p. 115).

“There are few who rightly appreciate or improve the precious privilege of prayer. We should go to Jesus and tell Him all our



needs. We may bring Him our little cares and perplexities as well as our greater troubles. Whatever arises to disturb or distress us, we should take it to the Lord in prayer. When we feel that we need the presence of Christ at every step, Satan will have little opportunity to intrude his temptations. It is his studied effort to keep us away from our best and most sympathizing friend. We should make no one our confidant but Jesus. We can safely commune with Him of all that is in our hearts.” (*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, pp. 200, 201).

“Let us strive to walk in the light as Christ is in the light. The Lord turned the captivity of Job when he prayed, not only for himself, but for those who were opposing him. When he felt earnestly desirous that the souls that had trespassed against him might be helped, he himself received help. Let us pray, not only for ourselves, but for those who have hurt us, and are continuing to hurt us. Pray, pray, especially in your mind. Give not the Lord rest; for His ears are open to hear sincere, importunate prayers, when the soul is humbled before Him (Letter 88, 1906).” (*The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, vol. 3, p. 1141).

“Unwearyingly persist in prayer. The persistent asking brings the petitioner into a more earnest attitude, and gives him an increased desire to receive the things for which he asks.” (*Christ’s Object Lessons*, p. 145).

“Personal effort for others should be preceded by much secret prayer; for it requires great wisdom to understand the science of saving souls. Before communicating with men, commune with Christ. At the throne of heavenly grace obtain a preparation for ministering to the people.” (*Christ’s Object Lessons*, p. 149).

“From the light I have had upon the subject I have decided that God does not require us, as we assemble for His worship, to make

these seasons tedious and wearisome by remaining bowed quite a length of time, listening to several long prayers. . . .”

“All should feel it a Christian duty to pray short. Tell the Lord just what you want, without going all over the world.” (*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 2, pp. 577).

“If men and women are in the habit of praying twice a day before they contemplate marriage, they should pray four times a day when such a step is anticipated.” (*Adventist Home*, p. 71).

## QUIZ – 11

Select True or False according to the reference:

1.  T  F Prayer is the opening of the heart to God as to a friend. (SC 11.2).
2.  T  F Those seeking communion with God will be seen at prayer meeting. (SC 11.15).
3.  T  F Thanksgiving should accompany our prayers. (Philippians 4:6).
4.  T  F David prayed at least three times a day. (Psalm 66:18).
5.  T  F Praying properly always means your prayer will be answered immediately. (SC 11.11).

Use one or more words to answer the following:

6. We may believe God will answer our prayers after this takes place. (SC 11.9).

7. What was the habit of Jesus regarding prayer? (Mark 1:35).

8. Our prayers are accepted in whose name only? (John 14:13, 14).

9. List two conditions necessary for prayer to be answered. (SC 11.7, 9, 10, 13-15, 23).

10. What is the life of the soul? (SC 11.16).

Select the option button of the best answer according to the text.

11. What is the best posture in private prayer? (Psalm 95:6).
- Sitting
  - Standing
  - Kneeling
  - Walking
12. What should always accompany prayer for the sick? (James 5:15, 16).
- Having a family member present
  - Anointing oil and laying on of hands
  - forgiveness of sins
  - Herb teas and charcoal

13. How many of our needs does God promise to supply? (Philippians 4:19).
- Most
  - Some
  - A few
  - All
14. What happens to those who do nothing but pray? (SC 11.24).
- See and increase in answered prayer
  - Soon cease to pray
  - Gain the respect of the angels
  - Acquire great power over other people
15. Complete the following passage:
- “Prayer is the [redacted] in the hand of [redacted] to unlock heaven’s storehouse, where are treasured the [redacted] [redacted] of Omnipotence.” (SC 10:1).