

**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 has been attending a series of evangelistic meetings given in your church. He has learned about the Sabbath, tithing, and all the other important doctrines. He missed last night's meeting on the plan of salvation, and the call to give his life to Jesus. There are only two nights left, and you are going to pay him a visit before the meeting tonight. How do you help him to make a decision to stand for Jesus and the truth he has heard?

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



## 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 acceptance, 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

Circle T for True or F for 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, 14, 15, 23).

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_

Circle the letter of the best answer according to the reference.

11. What is the best posture in prayer? (Psalm 95:6).  
 A. Sitting  
 B. Standing  
 C. Kneeling  
 D. Walking
12. What should always accompany prayer for the sick? (James 5:15, 16).  
 A. Having a family member present  
 B. Anointing oil and laying on of hands  
 C. Forgiveness of sins  
 D. Herb teas and charcoal
13. How many of our needs does God promise to supply? (Philippians 4:19).  
 A. Most  
 B. Some  
 C. A few  
 D. All
14. What happens to those who do nothing but pray? (SC 11.24).  
 A. See an increase in answered prayers  
 B. Soon cease to pray  
 C. Gain the respect of the angels  
 D. Acquire great power over other people
15. Complete the following quotation:  
 "Prayer is the \_\_\_\_\_ in the hand of \_\_\_\_\_ to unlock heaven's storehouse, where are treasured the \_\_\_\_\_ of Omnipotence." (SC 11.6).