



Prayer.

It's not that complicated.

Part 1: Why should we pray?
Episode 85 || November 21, 2021

Main Points

- We all pray, but we don't all know why we pray.
- True prayer is the difference between religious observance and a loving relationship.
- We usually pray to get either the attention or the things we want.
- We don't have to pray to be noticed. We get to pray because we are known.
- Prayer is an opportunity to personally practice and enjoy trusting God.
- Real prayer is a personal conversation, not an attention-grabbing ritual.
- When our focus is on intimate prayer we don't have to be intimidated by prayer.
- Real prayer is built on relationship, not manipulation.
- Prayer is not a sacrifice for God. Prayer is a gift for us.
- Prayer is not about getting what we want, but enjoying who we have.

"Show Notes" Resources & Links:

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Transcript || Kids Stuff || Podcast

Gatherings On Site: November 28th
4:30pm. Dinner + Music + Communion
<https://www.yourcrosscreek.com/gathering>

Suggested Bible Readings:
Luke 11:1-13, Romans 8:26-27, Philippians 4:6

Music we listened to making this episode:
Collective Soul- [Heavy](#)
U2- [Mysterious Ways](#)
Josh Garrels- [Benediction](#)

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Message Passage

"When you pray, don't be like the hypocrites who love to pray publicly on street corners and in the synagogues where everyone can see them. I tell you the truth, that is all the reward they will ever get. But when you pray, go away by yourself, shut the door behind you, and pray to your Father in private. Then your Father, who sees everything, will reward you. When you pray, don't babble on and on as the Gentiles do. They think their prayers are answered merely by repeating their words again and again. Don't be like them, for your Father knows exactly what you need even before you ask him!" Jesus, in Matthew 6:5-8 NLT

This Week's Challenge:

- **Read** Psalm 145:18 (or all of it)
- **Pray Differently:** Create a habit of enjoying access to God.
- **Include** God in your day to day, minute to minute thoughts.

Discussion Questions

1. How have you seen God show up this week?
2. In your own words how would you explain prayer and why we do it? and/or What has been your experience with prayer?
3. Read Matthew 6:5-8. What further thoughts or questions does this passage create for you?
4. How can you group pray for and with you this week?