

HARVEST COMMUNITY CHURCH

May 21, 2006

"Prayer...What Is It?"

"Most of the people we meet, inside and outside the church, think prayers are harmless but necessary starting pistols that shoot blanks and get things going." Eugene Peterson

Misconceptions about prayer - Prayer is a

Prayer is an act of:

1. _____

John 15:5-7 (NIV) ⁵ "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. ⁷ If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you.

Ephesians 3:20 (NCV) With God's power working in us, God can do much, much more than anything we can ask or imagine.

2. _____

John 15:15-16 (NIV) ¹⁵ I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. ¹⁶ You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit—fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name.

Psalm 139

3. _____

Philippians 4:6-7 (NCV) ⁶ Do not worry about anything, but pray and ask God for everything you need, always giving thanks. ⁷ And God's peace, which is so great we cannot understand it, will keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

John 16:24 (NIV) Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete.

James 4:2 (NIV) You do not have, because you do not ask God.

Psalm 37:4 (NIV) Delight yourself in the LORD and he will give you the desires of your heart.

Psalm 84:11 (NIV) For the LORD God is a sun and shield; the LORD bestows favor and honor; no good thing does he withhold from those whose walk is blameless.

Luke 11:11 (NCV) If your children ask for a fish, which of you would give them a snake instead?

4. _____

John 14:11-13 (NIV) ¹¹ Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the miracles themselves. ¹² I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father.

May memory verse: Colossians 3:12-13 (NIV) ¹² Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. ¹³ Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.