

Session 1: God Calls us to Pray

ESS 108: *Prayer*

USCCA Chapter 35

Date: ____/____/____

Name: _____

1. St. Thérèse of Lisieux defines prayer as a:

- a. Surge of the _____.
- b. Simple look turned toward _____.
- c. A _____ of recognition and love, embracing both trial and joy.

2. Prayer:

- a. Is a _____ and _____ relationship with God.
- b. Is always connected to _____, making doctrine come alive.

3. Scripture gives us a history of prayer.

- a. _____ Testament examples include Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, Hannah, Esther, David and the Psalms and Judith.
- b. In calling God '_____', Jesus both models and teaches us how to pray.
- c. The prayer of the New Testament Church gives us the basic form of praying:
 - i. _____ – acknowledging God as the source of all.
 - ii. _____ – presenting our needs to God.
 - iii. _____ – praying for the needs of others.
 - iv. _____ – especially in and through the Eucharist.
 - v. _____ - exulting God for who He is.

4. Sources of prayer include:

- a. The _____.
- b. The _____.

- c. God's _____ living in us through the gifts of the theological virtues (faith, hope and love).
5. Mary has a unique role in our prayer life as our model and intercessor.
- a. The ' _____ ' gives us a Scriptural and ecclesial (church) model of praying with her.
- b. The _____ allows us to contemplate the key events in the life of Jesus with the intercession of Mary.
6. The tradition of prayer in the Church has been supported by:
- a. Schools of _____.
- b. _____ and _____ prayer.
- c. Men and women _____.
- d. Parish religious _____.
7. The primary expressions of prayer are:
- a. _____ – from the lips.
- b. _____ – from the mind.
- c. _____ – from the heart.
8. Prayer requires work and effort. Problems in prayer include:
- a. _____ (a form of spiritual laziness).
- b. _____, which reveal to us our attachments.

For Further Study:

- Catechism of the Catholic Church ##2558-2758
- Scriptural Foundations: Matthew 6:5-15; 7:7-11; Acts 2:42; Luke 1:26-56; 1 Thessalonians 5:17.

Session 2: Jesus Taught us to Pray

ESS 108: *Prayer*

USCCA Chapter 36

Date: ____/____/____

Name: _____

1. The Our Father is also known as the "Lord's Prayer" because it comes from Jesus Himself.
 - a. The Our Father is found in the Gospel of St. _____ and the Gospel of St. _____.
 - b. It is at the _____ of every individual and communal prayer.

2. "Our Father":
 - a. _____ revealed God to us as our heavenly Father.
 - b. Jesus called God 'Abba', denoting a close, personal, _____ friendship with the Father.
 - c. While God has no gender like human beings, He is above all earthly categories of 'father' and is the _____ of all fatherhood.
 - d. The word 'Our' implies that we are a _____ united by God in the New Covenant, in communion with each other and the Holy Spirit.

3. "Who Art in Heaven":
 - a. Heaven is not a place but the majesty and _____ of God in the hearts of the just.
 - b. Heaven is the _____ of our relationship with God (Father, Son and Holy Spirit).

4. The seven petitions of the 'Our Father' are:
 - a. Hallowed be Thy Name.
 - i. We do not make God holy, but rather we recognize Him as the source of all _____.
 - ii. God's name was revealed _____ in the Scriptures.
 - iii. In _____ we become God's children and can call Him 'Father'.

- b. Thy kingdom come.
- i. The Kingdom of God is based on Christ-like _____.
 - ii. While the Kingdom is here because of Christ, we _____ its fulfillment at the end of the age.
- c. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
- i. We ask our Father to _____ our _____ with the will of Jesus.
 - ii. We do God's will by answering Jesus' call to _____ and by living lives of _____.
- d. Give us this day our daily bread.
- i. This refers to our daily _____ for our bodies.
 - ii. This also refers to our spiritual nourishment received in the _____.
 - iii. This includes asking God to take care of our _____ needs, also challenging us to take care of the poor.
- e. Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.
- i. We beg God for His _____ and _____.
 - ii. The condition for receiving this mercy is our forgiveness of our _____.
- f. And lead us not into temptation.
- i. We ask God to not allow _____ to fall into the path of sin.
 - ii. This petition calls us to grow in _____.
 - iii. We ask the Holy Spirit for the grace to _____ temptation and avoid the near occasion of sin.
- g. But deliver us from evil.
- i. Evil is _____. It has begun with the fall of Satan and now has the possibility to separate us from God at the expense of our salvation.
 - ii. The petition _____ us to God so the devil will not lead us to sin.

5. The Final Doxology:

- a. This concludes the Lord's Prayer, and was added to the "Our Father" by the _____.
- b. As words of _____, they echo the first three petitions.
- c. 'Amen', means 'so be it'; it summarizes our response to God in which we give our _____ selves to Him.

6. As Christians, there should be a profound connection between the beliefs of the Church and our prayer life.

- a. The two are _____ and support each other.
- b. Prayer requires _____ on our part.
- c. Prayer is a matter of the heart, which is at the very _____ of ourselves.
- d. Doctrine is not purely an academic endeavor; it is _____ connected with the Person of Jesus.

For Further Study:

- Catechism of the Catholic Church #2759 – 2865.
- Scriptural Foundations: Matthew 6:5-13; 14:23; Luke 3:21; Luke 11:1-4; Luke 18:10-14.