

Matthew 6:1-2 NIV, Matthew 6:5-8 NIV, Matthew 6:16 NIV

Q: Is fasting, giving, and praying a regular rhythm in your Christian life?

1. God pleasing prayer has the right motivation.

Matthew 6:5 NIV, Matthew 6:6 NIV

Are you willing to pray in private?

“It’s impossible to conduct your life as a disciple without definite times of secret prayer. Your eyes upon God, not on men. Don’t even have the motive to be known as a praying man. Have no other motive than to know your Father in heaven.”

-Oswald Chambers

2. God pleasing prayer is not mechanical.

Matthew 6:7 NIV, Psalm 19:14 NKJV

Mechanical. Meaningless. Many words.

3. Our Father knows our needs.

Matthew 6:8 NIV, 1 Kings 18:26-29 NLT, Matthew 6:31-34 NIV, 1 Peter 5:6-7 NKJV, Matthew 6:8 NIV

They used many words and they misunderstood God.

“O what peace we often forfeit, o what needless pain we bear, all because we do not carry, everything to God in prayer.”

What a Friend We Have in Jesus (Hymn).

Jesus said ASK.

Peter said CAST.

HE CARES FOR YOU.

“When dad died there were no crowds outside the hospital, no notice in the papers, no announcements on the television, no mention in parliament, no notice in the nation. In his hospital room, there was only the quiet hiss of oxygen, vainly venting because dad had stopped breathing and would never need it again. But on the other side, all the trumpets sounded. Dad won admittance to the only throne room that matters, not because he was a good man or a great man, but because he was a forgiven man.”

-D.A. Carson