

## Chapter 5 | Study Guide

*Note: Neither CBC nor the Baptist Faith and Message 1963 or 2000 have a stance on Prayer.*

The following is from CBC-Youth's Core Values:

### I. **Prayer**

2 Chron. 7:14 and Matt. 6:9 is the crux of our ministry. They both focus on the heart of the worshipper. We know that God moves when his people seek his face and we want that for our youth group. We want to teach the youth that it is never about us – our actions, our ability – but it is all about God. Our faith is tied up in the sovereignty of God (Ps. 115:3). And we want to teach the youth that it is not because God needs us that's why we pray, but because we need him. It must be a crucial element in our youth ministry. So how do we communicate this to the youth? Well...we tell them. This is why we pray. This is how we pray. We spend an extended time teaching and preaching over prayer and afterwards we demonstrate it to them. We make prayer a necessity rather than a ritual. We get other church members to be involved in praying for the youth. We ask the adult Sunday schools to continually pray for the youth. We teach parents how to pray with their teenagers. On trips and retreats we devote a large amount before, during, and after to prayer. We must realize that unless God moves, then everything we do is worthless. So what do we do? Well...we prepare ourselves and each other the best we can – we confess sin, call out sin, study Scripture, learn Church history, worship, and patiently wait on the Lord for him to move. We position ourselves in order to receive God's blessings.

1. **Prayer** is personal communication from us to God, not only helps us know *about* God but also helps us truly *know* God. (pg 48)
  - a. Through prayer we can communicate our requests to God
  - b. Confess our Sins to God
  - c. Give adoration, praise, and thanksgiving to God
2. **Reason for Prayer:** I would ask around to see what the true motives of prayer. Why do you pray? Where did you learn how to pray? Or did you ever learn? (pg 48)
  - a. **Read** Matt. 6:8 and its surrounding context. What is the main idea of this passage? Question: If God already knows everything and what we will ask him, what's the purpose of prayer? *God does not want us to pray so that he can find out what we need. Instead, God wants us to pray so that our dependence on him can increase.*
3. **Why does God want us to pray?** (pg 48)
  - a. Our trust in him will grow through prayer.
  - b. He desires that our love for him and our relationship with him will deepen and grow.
  - c. We deepen our love and understanding of God and our relationship with him.
4. **The Effectiveness of Prayer:** Read through Luke 11:9-10 and its surrounding context. (pg 49)
5. **\*What is Jesus' role in prayer?** Do you think we have any right to approach God with our requests? Does God answer the prayers of both non-believers and believers? (pg 49) Read through 1 Tim. 2:5 & John 14:6 – what are the implications of these verses?

6. **Our Attitude in Prayer:** When we understand our position & sinful nature compared to who God really is (omnipotent, all-knowing, omnipresent, etc.) what is our attitude in prayer? Why is pride so damaging especially in the aspect of prayer? *It's usually because we think that God owes us something. Ex. Someone is ill and we pray and pray for God to heal them but they end up dying and we curse God and say that he betrays us. (pg 50-51)*
  - a. **Confident:** because of Jesus Christ and his shed blood (push this principle because it is through Jesus that we approach the throne of God)
  - b. **Humility:** Understand who we are and who God is
  - c. **Honest:** If God is truly all-knowing then there's nothing he doesn't know. If we are frustrated with him, if we are broken, lonely, rejected, happy, sinful...we come honestly to him. (Ps. 40)
7. **Read** through CBC Youth Ministry's Core Value on Prayer (on [cbc-youth.com](http://cbc-youth.com) -> philosophy)
8. **Spend** time teaching your students how to pray. Teach them how you pray and give them guidelines.

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1. True/False: God wants us to pray because he does not know what we need unless we tell him.
2. Why does God want us to pray?
  - a. So that our trust will grow through prayer
  - b. It is something that brings him glory
  - c. It allows us to be a part of a story that is greater than our own.
  - d. All of the above
3. Luke 11:9-10 "Ask, and it will be \_\_\_\_\_ to you; seek, and you will \_\_\_\_\_; knock, and it will be open to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened"
4. What is Jesus' role in our prayers to God?
5. True/False: Anything in our lives that displeases God will hinder our prayers
6. True/False: We have to be perfect (completely free from sin) in order for God to hear us.
7. Bonus: I am a mammal. I lay eggs. I live in Australia. I'm funny looking. What am I?
8. Do you have specific prayer requests that we could pray for you about?

I would like someone to talk to me because:

- I am interested in learning about Jesus, Church, and Salvation
- I am dealing with personal issues: family, addictions, friends, depression, etc.
- I am looking for a place to be a member and serve
- I am looking for another church & youth group to attend