

## Definitions of Prayer

By Joline Stewart

How would you define prayer? Until we have a definition of prayer, how can we measure our progress? How can we hit any target without a clear idea of what we are aiming at?

This month we will consider the definitions given us by two very prominent men of God, C.H. Spurgeon and John Bunyan. As you pray this month, perhaps you might read, reread and practice what can be gained from their perceptions. First is Spurgeon.

“True prayer is an approach of the soul by the Spirit of God to the throne of God. It is not the utterance of words, it is not alone the feeling of desires, but it is the advance of the desires to God, the spiritual approach of our nature towards the Lord our God. True prayer is not a mere mental exercise, nor a vocal performance, but it is deeper far than that—it is spiritual commerce with the Creator of Heaven and Earth. God is a Spirit unseen of mortal eye, and only to be perceived by the inner man. Our spirit within us, begotten by the Holy Ghost at our regeneration, discerns God, communes with Him, prefers to Him its requests, and receives from Him answers of peace. It is a spiritual business from beginning to end, and its aim and object end not with man but reach to God himself.”

John Bunyan wrote, “Prayer is a sincere, sensible, affectionate pouring out of the heart or soul to God, through Christ in the strength and assistance of the Holy Spirit for what God has promised according to His Word, for the good of His body with submission in faith to the will of God.”

As you pray this month, keep in mind some of these key principles. Ask God about them. Ask Him to make clear to you, His definition of prayer. There is no greater teacher to ask or presence to seek.

Selected from: “Spurgeon on Prayer, How to Converse with God” (Bridge Logos) and “Prayer” (The Banner of Truth Trust) Compiled by JMS



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## PRAYER JOURNAL

JULY 2025

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Mark the box after you have prayed each day to help build a more consistent prayer life. Pray a verse a day!

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

4

Cords of 3/  
Personal prayer  
1 John 5:14-15

11  
Cords of 3/  
Personal prayer  
Isaiah 44:3

18 ☐

Cords of 3/  
Personal prayer  
1 Thessalonians 5:17

25  
Cords of 3/  
Personal prayer  
Mark 11:22-24



# PRAYER LIST

### Personal:

FAMILY & FRIENDS  
NEIGHBORS & ASSOCIATES  
GOVERNMENT & LEADERS

**Spiritual:**

LABORERS  
SOULS SAVED  
BIBLE STUDY GROUP  
GREATER —  
Godliness • Growth  
Commitment • Faithfulness

### Add Your Own:

[illegible]

## PRAY SCRIPTURES

Begin by thinking about the meaning of each keyword in that verse. How does it affect the meaning of that verse?

"Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you." - *Matthew 7:7 (NASB)*

"Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me and know my anxious thoughts; and see if there be any hurtful way in me, and lead me in the everlasting way." - *Psalms 139:23-24 (NASB)*

*"The only enduring motive for prayer is that God is worthy to be sought." – Daniel Henderson, Strategic Renewal*

**Contact Joline Stewart** for additional prayer resources: 952-294-0822 | [LamplightersUSA.org](http://LamplightersUSA.org)