

# Philippians Series

## Lesson #099

June 12, 2025

Dean Bible Ministries

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# An Apostolic Prayer Example

## Philippians 4:6–7; Acts 4:24–31





**Php. 4:6, “Y’all don’t be anxious for any reason, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God.” [~RD]**

**μεριμνάω *merimnaō*  
2 plur pres act impera  
“Y’all don’t be anxious  
for any reason.”**

***In every situation,***

**let your requests be made known to God**

## **Definition:**

- 1. Prayer is just an ongoing conversation with God.**
- 2. Prayer is the believer's vital communication link to his heavenly Father.**
- 3. Prayer takes us immediately into the throne room of God, into God's very presence.**

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**We are able to enter God's presence boldly because Jesus is our High Priest.**

**Col. 4:2, “Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving;” [NKJV]**

**προσκαρτερέω, *proskartureo* – to continue to do something with intense effort, with the possible implication of despite difficulty  
“to devote oneself to, to keep on, to persist in.”**

**Col. 4:2, “Devote yourselves to prayer; stay alert in it with thanksgiving.” [HCSB]**

**Acts 1:14, “These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers.”**

**Rom. 12:12, “rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer;”**

**Acts 2:42, “And they were continually devoting themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.”**

**1 Thess 5:17, “Pray without ceasing.”**



**Prayer is that grace provision of the royal priesthood**

**whereby the Church Age believer has access and privilege to communicate directly with God;**

**the purpose of this communication is [CATS]**

**confess sin [to acknowledge our sin to God],**

**express adoration and praise to God,**

**give thanks,**

**intercede for others, and**

**convey our personal needs, petitions, and conduct intimate conversations with God.**

# **What the Bible Teaches About How We Pray**





**Matt. 6:5, “And when you pray, you shall not be like the hypocrites. For they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the corners of the streets, that they may be seen by men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward.**

**Matt. 6:6, “But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.**

**Matt. 6:7, “And when you pray, do not use vain repetitions as the heathen do. For they think that they will be heard for their many words.**

**Matt. 6:8, “Therefore do not be like them. For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him.**

**Matt. 6:9, “In this manner, therefore, pray:”**

# **Jesus and the Prayer to Teach the Disciples How to Pray**



**Matt. 6:9, “In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name.**

**Matt. 6:10, “Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Matt. 6:11, “Give us this day our daily bread.**

**Matt. 6:12, “And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.**

**Matt. 6:13, “And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.”**

# **What the Bible Teaches About An Apostolic Example**





**Acts 4:24, “So when they heard that, they raised their voice to God with one accord and said: ‘Lord, You are God, who made heaven and earth and the sea, and all that is in them,**

**Acts 4:25, “ ‘who by the mouth of Your servant David have said: “Why did the nations rage, and the people plot vain things?**

**Acts 4:26, “ ‘ “The kings of the earth took their stand, and the rulers were gathered together against the LORD and against His Christ.”**

**Acts 4:27, “ ‘For truly against Your holy Servant Jesus, whom You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles and the people of Israel, were gathered together.’ ”**

**Acts 4:28, “ ‘to do whatever Your hand and Your purpose determined before to be done.**

**Acts 4:29, “ ‘Now, Lord, look on their threats, and grant to Your servants that with all boldness they may speak Your word,**

**Acts 4:30, “ ‘by stretching out Your hand to heal, and that signs and wonders may be done through the name of Your holy Servant Jesus.’**

**Acts 4:31, “And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.”**



**Acts 4:23, “And when they [Peter and John] had been released, they went to their own companions, and reported all that the chief priests and the elders had said to them.**

**Acts 4:24, “So when they heard that, they raised their voice to God with one accord and said: ‘Lord, You are God, who made heaven and earth and the sea, and all that is in them,’ ”**

# **ESSENCE OF GOD**

## **HOLY IN EACH**

**Sovereign**

**Omniscient**

**Righteousness**

**Omnipresent**

**Justice**

**Omnipotent**

**Love**

**Veracity**

**Eternal Life**

**Immutability**

**Acts 4:23, “And when they [Peter and John] had been released, they went to their own companions, and reported ALL that the chief priests and the elders had said to them.”**



**Acts 4:24, “So when they [the fellow believers] heard that, they raised their voice to God with one accord and said: ‘Lord, You are God, who made heaven and earth and the sea, and all that is in them,’ ”**

**Ex. 20:11, “For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.”**

From *The Screwtape Letters*, C. S. Lewis

The Senior Demon teaching temptation:

**“Whenever they [believers] are attending to the Enemy Himself [Christ] we are defeated, but there are ways of preventing them from doing so. The simplest is to turn their gaze away from Him towards themselves. Keep them watching their own minds and trying to produce feelings there by the action of their own wills.”**



**Acts 4:24, “So when they heard that, they [their fellow believers] raised their voice to God with one accord and said: ‘Lord, You are God, who made heaven and earth and the sea, and all that is in them,’ ”**

**1 Chron. 16:26, “For all the gods of the peoples are idols,  
but the LORD made the heavens.”**

**Neh. 9:6, “You alone are the LORD; You have made heaven,  
**the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth and  
everything on it, the seas and all that is in them, and You  
preserve them all. The host of heaven worships You.”****



**Psa. 121:2, “My help comes from the LORD, Who made heaven and earth.”**

**Psa. 124:8, “Our help is in the name of the LORD, Who made heaven and earth.”**

**Psa. 134:3, “The LORD who made heaven and earth bless you from Zion!”**

**Psa. 136:5, “To Him who by wisdom made the heavens, for His mercy endures forever;”**

**Isa. 37:16, “O LORD of hosts, God of Israel, the One who dwells between the cherubim, You are God, You alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth. You have made heaven and earth.”**

**Jer. 32:17, “Ah, Lord GOD! Behold, You have made the heavens and the earth by Your great power and outstretched arm. There is nothing too hard for You.”**



**Acts 4:24, “So when they heard that, they [their fellow believers] raised their voice to God with one accord and said: ‘Lord, You are God, who made heaven and earth and the sea, and all that is in them,’ ”**

**ὁμοθυμαδόν *homothumadon* united in one mind**

**Acts 1:14, “These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers.”**

**Acts 2:46, “So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart,”**

**Rom. 15:6, “that you may with one mind and one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.”**

**ὁμοθυμαδόν *homothumadon* united in one mind**

**Other synonyms are used. Notice the emphasis is on thought, not feelings.**

**2 Cor. 13:11, “Finally, brethren, farewell. Become complete. Be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you.”**

**Php. 1:27, “Only let your conduct be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of your affairs, that you stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel,”**

**Php. 2:2, “fulfill my joy by being like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind.”**

**1 Pet. 3:8, “Finally, all of you be of one mind, having compassion for one another; love as brothers, be tenderhearted, be courteous;”**



**Psa. 146:1, “Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul!**

**Psa. 146:2, “While I live I will praise the LORD; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.**

**Psa. 146:3, “Do not put your trust in princes, nor in a son of man, in whom there is no help.**

**Psa. 146:4, “His spirit departs, he returns to his earth; In that very day his plans perish.**

**Psa. 146:5, “Happy is he who has the God of Jacob for his help, whose hope is in the LORD his God,”**

**Psa. 146:6, “Who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; Who keeps truth forever,**

**Psa. 146:7, “Who executes justice for the oppressed, Who gives food to the hungry. The LORD gives freedom to the prisoners.**

**Psa. 146:8, “The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; The LORD raises those who are bowed down; The LORD loves the righteous.**

**Psa. 146:9, “The LORD watches over the strangers; He relieves the fatherless and widow; But the way of the wicked He turns upside down.**

**Psa. 146:10, “The LORD shall reign forever—Your God, O Zion, to all generations. Praise the LORD!”**

**Who keeps TRUTH forever:**

**God is FAITHFUL**

**Lam. 3:21, “This I recall to my mind, therefore I have hope.**

**Lam. 3:22, “Through the LORD’S mercies we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not.**

**Lam. 3:23, “They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness.”**

**Justice (7a), *Who executes justice for the oppressed:***

**Psa. 37:5, “Commit your way to the LORD, trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass.**

**Psa. 37:6, “He shall bring forth your righteousness as the light, and your justice as the noonday.”**



**Food (7b), *Who gives food to the hungry:***

**Luke 12:22, “Then He said to His disciples, ‘Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; nor about the body, what you will put on.**

**Luke 12:23, “ ‘Life is more than food, and the body is more than clothing.’ ”**

**Release from prison (7c), The Lord sets the prisoners free:**

**Rom. 6:6, “knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin.”**

**Gal. 6:1, “It is for freedom that Christ has set us free.”**

## **5. Sight (8a),**

***The Lord opens the eyes of the blind:***

**Eph. 1:18, “the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,”**

## **6. Encouragement (8b),**

***The Lord raises up those who are bowed down:***

**2 Cor. 1:3, “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort,**

**2 Cor. 1:4, “who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.”**



**7. Love (8c),**  
***The Lord loves the righteous:***

**Rom. 5:8, “But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”**

## **8. Protection (9a),**

***The LORD watches over the strangers:***

**Psa. 18:2, “The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; My God, my strength, in whom I will trust; My shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.**

**Psa. 18:3, “I will call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised; So shall I be saved from my enemies.”**

## **9. Support for the helpless (9b),**

***He relieves the fatherless and widow:***

**Psa. 71:3, “Be my strong refuge, to which I may resort continually; You have given the commandment to save me, for You are my rock and my fortress.”**

**Psa. 71:4, “Deliver me, O my God, out of the hand of the wicked, out of the hand of the unrighteous and cruel man.”**

**10. Frustrating the wicked (9c);**

***But the way of the wicked He turns upside down.***



**Isa. 46:9, “Remember the former things of old, for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me,**

**Isa. 46:10, “Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times things that are not yet done, saying, ‘My counsel shall stand, and I will do all My pleasure,’ ”**

**Acts 4:25, “You said through the Holy Spirit, by the mouth of our father David Your servant: *Why did the Gentiles rage and the peoples plot futile things?*”**

**Acts 4:26, “*The kings of the earth took their stand and the rulers assembled together against the Lord and against His Messiah.*” [Psa. 2:1–2]**

**συνάγω *sunagō*  
3 plur aor pass  
indic to gather,  
bring together;  
compile**

**Psa. 2:1, “Why do the nations rage, and the people plot a vain thing?”**

**Psa. 2:2, “The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and against His Messiah [Anointed One], saying,”**

**συνάγω *sunagō*  
3 plur aor pass  
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compile**

**Psa. 2:3, “ ‘Let us break Their bonds in pieces and cast away Their cords from us.’**

**Psa. 2:4, “He who sits in the heavens shall laugh; The Lord shall hold them in derision.**

**Psa. 2:5, “Then He shall speak to them in His wrath, and distress them in His deep displeasure:**

**Psa. 2:6, “Yet I have set My King on My holy hill of Zion.”**



**Psa. 2:7, “I will declare the decree: The LORD has said to Me, ‘You are My Son, today I have begotten You.**

**Psa. 2:8, “ ‘Ask of Me, and I will give You the nations for Your inheritance, and the ends of the earth for Your possession.**

**Psa. 2:9, “ ‘You shall break them with a rod of iron; You shall dash them to pieces like a potter’s vessel.’ ”**

**Col. 1:24, “I now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up in my flesh what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ, for the sake of His body, which is the church,”**

**Acts 4:27, “For truly against Your holy Servant Jesus,  
whom You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with  
the Gentiles and the people of Israel, were gathered  
together,”**

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**Acts 4:27, “For truly against Your holy Servant Jesus, whom You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles and the people of Israel, were gathered together**

**Acts 4:28, “to do whatever Your hand and Your purpose determined before to be done.”**

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**Acts 4:29, “Now, Lord, look on their threats, and grant to Your servants that with all boldness they may speak Your word,**

**Acts 4:30, “by stretching out Your hand to heal, and that signs and wonders may be done through the name of Your holy Servant Jesus.”**



**Luke 18:13, “And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me a sinner!’ ”**

**Rom. 1:10, “always in my prayers making request, if perhaps now at last by the will of God I may succeed in coming to you.”**

**Matt. 26:42, “Again, a second time, He went away and prayed, saying, ‘O My Father, if this cup cannot pass away from Me unless I drink it, Your will be done.’ ”**

**Rom. 1:10, “making request if, by some means, now at last I may find a way in the will of God to come to you.”**

**Acts 4:31, “And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.”**



**Acts 4:32, “Now the multitude of those who believed were of one heart and one soul; neither did anyone say that any of the things he possessed was his own, but they had all things in common.”**

# **What the Bible Teaches About Perseverance in Prayer**



**Luke 18:1, “Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart,**

**Luke 18:2, “saying: ‘There was in a certain city a judge who did not fear God nor regard man.’ ”**

**Luke 18:3, “Now there was a widow in that city; and she came to him, saying, ‘Get justice for me from my adversary.’**

**Luke 18:4, “And he would not for a while; but afterward he said within himself, ‘Though I do not fear God nor regard man,**

**Luke 18:5, “ ‘yet because this widow troubles me I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.’ ”**

**Luke 18:6, “Then the Lord said, ‘Hear what the unjust judge said.**

**Luke 18:7, “ ‘And shall God not avenge His own elect who cry out day and night to Him, though He bears long with them?**

**Luke 18:8, “ ‘I tell you that He will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?’ ”**



**Dan. 10:1, “In the third year of Cyrus king of Persia a message was revealed to Daniel, whose name was called Belteshazzar. The message was true, but the appointed time was long; and he understood the message, and had understanding of the vision.**

**Dan. 10:2, “In those days I, Daniel, was mourning three full weeks.**

**Dan. 10:3, “I ate no pleasant food, no meat or wine came into my mouth, nor did I anoint myself at all, till three whole weeks were fulfilled.**

**Dan. 10:4, “Now on the twenty-fourth day of the first month, as I was by the side of the great river, that is, the Tigris,**

**Dan. 10:5, “I lifted my eyes and looked, and behold, a certain man clothed in linen,”**

**Dan. 10:10, “Suddenly, a hand touched me, which made me tremble on my knees and on the palms of my hands.**

**Dan. 10:11, “And he said to me, ‘O Daniel, man greatly beloved, understand the words that I speak to you, and stand upright, for I have now been sent to you.’ While he was speaking this word to me, I stood trembling.**

**Dan. 10:12, “Then he said to me, ‘Do not fear, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand, and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard; and I have come because of your words.**

**Dan. 10:13, “ ‘But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days; and behold, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I had been left alone there with the kings of Persia.’ ”**

**2 Cor. 12:7, “And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I be exalted above measure.**

**2 Cor. 12:8, “Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me.**

**2 Cor. 12:9, “And He said to me, ‘My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.’ Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.**

**2 Cor. 12:10, “Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ’s sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong.”**