**How to Pray**

**Prayer is not a formula. It is open conversation with your God. Below is an outline to assist you in getting started if you are a new believer and unfamiliar with praying. It is not a roadmap to follow to the letter, but a tool to guide you on your prayer journey.**

1. Begin with a period of praise and thanksgiving:
	1. Give thanks for past, present, and future blessings
	2. Praise God for who He is {His characteristics and names}
	3. Worship and adore Him
2. Continue with confession and repentance
	1. Ask God to search your thoughts and attitudes
	2. Carefully examine your speech
	3. Ask God to thoroughly search your relationships
	4. Assess any sins of commission and be sure to forsake the sins God reveals
	5. Confess any sins of omission and make definite commitment to obedience
	6. Resolve to fully repent of any known thought, word or deed
	7. Ask God to fill you with the Holy Spirit
	8. Be sure to utilize a thorough biblical search all areas of your life with God’s word
3. Prayer is a personal petition
	1. Pray for development of character and holiness {Pray through specific fruits of the spirit and virtues}
	2. Pray for your ministry and service to God {Be very specific in your prayers}
	3. Pray for physical, emotional, spiritual or financial needs
4. Prayers of intercession
	1. Pray for the needs of your family and friends
	2. Pray for pastors and church
	3. Pray for specific lost people {Use specific prayers}
	4. Pray for missionaries and mission efforts
	5. Pray for revival and spiritual awakening

(In intercession, seek to be a specific as possible.)

1. Meditation and assessment
	1. Reflect on key points of your scripture reading and prayer time
	2. Assess what God has impressed on your heart
	3. Write down key impressions in a daily journal
	4. End your time with thanksgiving for God’s love and presence