

# What is a Christian's #1 Job?

Living like Jesus- **Witnessing**- World Outreach-

**Worship**- Stewardship, Tithing- **Recovery**- Teaching-

**Studying God's Word**- Duplication, Discipleship-

**Politics, Reformation, Cultural Renewal**- Spiritual G.

**Fighting Evil, Spiritual Warfare**- Feeding the Poor,

Care for the weak & helpless of the world, Rx, etc.

**Get to Heaven & take as many as you as can with you**





*Prayers*



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A soldier in camouflage and a hat is shouting with his mouth wide open, surrounded by other soldiers in a training field. The scene is outdoors with a clear blue sky and a large group of soldiers in the background.

**Prayer  
Basic Training  
John 17**



If you've ever struggled with your prayer life...

The heart of the issue:

Lack of Faith

DEVELOPING  
<sup>a</sup> DARING Faith



## Romans 1:16-17 NLT

16 For I am not ashamed of this Good News about Christ. It is the **power of God at work**, saving everyone who **believes**—the Jew first and also the Gentile.

17 This Good News tells us how God makes us right in His sight.

This is accomplished from start to finish **by faith**.

As the Scriptures say,

“It is **through faith** that a righteous person has life.”





Prayer is one of the most powerful ways  
faith is tested.

From beginning to end,  
the prayer life is a walk of faith.

It requires faith for me to come to God.



## Hebrews 11:5-6 NLT

5 It was **by faith** that Enoch was taken up to heaven without dying—

“he disappeared, because God took him.”

For before he was taken up, he was known as a person who pleased God.

6 And it is **impossible to please God without faith.** Anyone who wants to come to Him **must believe** that God exists and that He rewards those who sincerely seek Him.

**Faith** is **Pistis**    **Believe** is **Pisteo**





It requires faith to believe that He loves me, accepts me, and wants me to come to Him.

It requires faith to believe that God listens, hears, and responds to my prayers, despite my fears, failures, and lack of eloquence before Him.

It requires faith to believe and take the time to obey in the area of prayer especially when I cannot always see what it's accomplishing.



**Prayer does not provide instant gratification.**







# A Fish on the Line





HEROES OF  
FAITH

Hebrews 13:7 <sup>NLT</sup>

- 7 Remember your leaders  
who taught you the word of God.  
Think of all the good that has come  
from their lives,  
and **follow the example of their faith.**





The Front Yard is for all to see





Prayer is the Back Yard



## My Problems with Prayer (My Excuses)

1. **More time** is not easy to come by.
2. The **attractions** of a non-praying life
3. **I really don't believe**  
it will make much of a difference.
4. I am **not convinced** of the Power of Prayer.
5. **Nobody knows.**



6. **Prayer evokes** words such as **humility**, pleading, and powerlessness.

7. **Fear:**

Hidden **Sins**

He might ask me to **do something**

8. Faith is **hard to come by**.



Prayer operates by God's unpublished rules.

DEVELOPING  
<sup>a</sup> DARING Faith



# John 17:1-5 <sup>NLT</sup> The Prayer of Jesus

- 1 After saying all these things,  
Jesus looked up to heaven and said,  
“Father, the hour has come.  
Glorify your Son  
so He can give glory back to You.
- 2 For You have given Him  
authority over everyone.  
He gives eternal life to each one  
You have given Him.



3 And this is the way to have eternal life  
—**to know You**, the only true God,  
and Jesus Christ, the One You sent to earth.

4 I brought glory to You here on earth  
by completing the work You gave Me to do.

5 Now, Father, bring Me into the glory  
We shared before the world began.







**YOU  
ARE  
NOT  
ALONE.**

**If you've ever struggled  
with your prayer life,  
know that you're in good company.**





**Prayer  
Basic Training  
John 17**

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FORWARD IN

FAITH

