

**Special Report**

# **How to Pray with Power**

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THERE is nothing more important in the Christian life than beginning correctly. But what is the right beginning in the Christian life?

The right way to begin the Christian life is by receiving Jesus Christ. No one can become a child of God in any other way.

Some accept this wondrous gift of God. Many others refuse this wondrous gift, and everyone who refuses this gift perishes. "He who believes in him is not judged. He who doesn't believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of the one and only Son of God." (John 3:18).

## **3 Fruits of God's Gift**

1. First of all, *God offers Jesus to us to bear our sins*. We have all sinned. There is not a man or woman or a boy or a girl who has not sinned (Romans 3:22-23).

Now we must each bear our own sin or someone else must bear it for us. God Himself has provided another to bear our sins in our place so that we should not need to bear them ourselves. This sin-bearer is God's own Son, Jesus Christ, "For him who knew no sin he made to be sin on our behalf; so that in him we might become the righteousness of God." (2 Corinthians 5:21).

When Jesus Christ died on the cross of Calvary He redeemed us from the curse of the law by being made a curse for us (Galatians 3:13). To receive Christ then is to believe this

testimony of God about His Son and to believe that Jesus Christ did bear our sins in His own body on the cross (1 Peter 2:24).

It also means to trust God to forgive all our sins because Jesus Christ has borne them in our place. "All we like sheep have gone astray. Everyone has turned to his own way; and Yahweh has laid on him the iniquity of us all" (Isaiah 53:6).

**2. *God offers Jesus to us as our deliverer from the power of sin.*** Jesus not only died, He rose again. Today He is a living Savior. He has all power in heaven and on earth (Matthew 28:18).

He has power to keep the weakest sinner from falling (Jude 1:24). He is able to save not only from the uttermost but "Therefore he is also able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, seeing that he lives forever to make intercession for them." (Hebrews 7:25) "If therefore the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed." (John 8:36).

To receive Jesus is to believe what God tells us in His Word about Him, to believe that He did rise from the dead, to believe that He does now live, to believe that He has power to keep us from falling, to believe that He has power to keep us from the power of sin day by day, and just trust Him to do it.

**3. *But God offers Jesus to us, not only as our sin-bearer and our Deliverer from the power of sin, but He also offers Him to us as our Lord and King.*** We read in Acts 2:36, "Let all the house of Israel therefore know certainly that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified." Lord means Divine Master, and Christ means anointed King.

To receive Jesus is to take Him as our Divine Master; the One whose word we believe absolutely. The question from this time on is never going to be, what would I like to do or what do others tell me to do, or what do others do The whole question is WHAT WOULD

JESUS WANT ME TO DO? A right beginning involves an unconditional surrender to the Lordship and Kingship of Jesus.

The life of entire surrender is a joyous life all along the way. If you have never done it before, go alone with God today, get down on your knees and say, "All for Jesus," and mean it. Say it very sincerely; say it from the bottom of your heart. Stay there until you realize what it means and what you are doing. It is a wondrous step forward when one really takes it.

If you have taken it already, take it again, take it often. It always has fresh meaning and brings fresh blessedness. In this absolute surrender is found the key to the truth. Doubts rapidly disappear for one who surrenders all (John 7:17). In this absolute surrender is found the secret of power in prayer (1 John 3:22). In this absolute surrender is found the supreme condition of receiving the Holy Ghost (Acts 5:32).

This is the right beginning, the only right beginning of the Christian life. If you have made this beginning, all that follows will be comparatively easy. If you have not made this beginning, make it now.

## **9 Reasons to Pray**

Our lives are busy and sometimes we forget to pray. Sometimes we may ask ourselves, "Why is prayer so necessary? Prayer is necessary because:

**1. *Prayer is God's way for getting things, and the great secret of all lack in our experience, in our life and in our work is neglect of prayer.***

James brings this out very forcefully in James 4:2: "You lust, and don't have. You kill, covet, and can't obtain. You fight and make war. You don't have, because you don't ask." These