

Prayer Training 3

The Person who prays

Q. Who are we to be when we pray to God?

A. The people who believe and are saved by Jesus are *in* Him in spirit. We have a personal relationship with God the Father *through* His Son Jesus Christ

Q. How should we position our heart before God?

A. We come to God in humility.

... *“God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble.”* James 4:6 NKJV

Q. What position did the men of God take before God?

Abram fell on his face, and God talked with him, Genesis 17:3 NKJV

(The Israelites) they fell on their faces, and said, “O God, the God of the spirits of all flesh, shall one man sin, and You be angry with all the congregation?” Numbers 16:22 NKJV

Moses and Aaron ...fell on their faces. And the glory of the LORD appeared to them. Nu. 20:6

Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshiped, and said to Him, “What does my Lord say to His servant?” Joshua 5:14

...when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces; and they said, “The LORD, He is God! The LORD, He is God!” 1 Kings 18:39 NKJV

David and the elders... fell on their faces. 1 Chronicles 21:16

(Ezra) I fell on my knees and spread out my hands to the LORD my God. Ezra 9:5

Job ... he fell to the ground and worshiped. Job 1:20

(Ezekiel) I fell on my face. Ezekiel 3:23

...the disciples heard it, they fell on their faces and were greatly afraid. Matthew 17:6

And the unclean spirits, whenever they saw Him, fell down before Him and cried out, saying, “You are the Son of God.” Mark 3:11

... a woman whose young daughter had an unclean spirit ... fell at His feet. Mark 7:25

...Simon Peter ...fell down at Jesus’ knees...Luke 5:8

... Jairus,...a ruler of the synagogue....fell down at Jesus’ feet ...Luke 8:41

...Mary ... fell down at His feet, saying to Him, “Lord,... John 11:32

...he fell to the ground ... “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?” Acts 9:4

(John the apostle) I fell at His feet as dead...Revelation 1:17

(Even Jesus in the garden) He ...fell on His face, and prayed,... “O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will.” Matthew 26:39

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Q. Where are believers *positioned* before God in the spirit?

A. We are *in Christ* and Christ is *in us* by the gift of the indwelling Holy Spirit

When we are born again in the spirit we become a *new creation in Christ*.

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. 2 Corinthians 5:17

The apostle Paul understood where he stood in his relationship with Christ.

"I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me." Galatians 2:20 NASB

To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. Colossians 1:27 NKJV

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, ⁴just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, ⁵having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, ⁶to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved. Ephesians 1:3-6

In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace Ephesians 1:7

In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel...; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, Ephesians 1:13

Abide, live, rest, remain, join in Christ.

"I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. John 15:5

If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. John 15:7

We are one in the spirit with Christ and God the Father

that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. John 17:21

God has given you His Holy Spirit to live in you.

"And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever-- the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you." John 14:16-17

"But you belong to God, my dear children. You have already won a victory over those people, because the Spirit who lives in you is greater than the spirit who lives in the world." 1 John 4:4 NLT

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We are set free in Christ.

*Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, “If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. ³² And you shall know the truth, and the **truth shall make you free.**” ³⁶ Therefore if the Son makes you free, **you shall be free indeed.** John 8:31-32, 36*

Christ is the only way to come to the Father.

*Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one **comes to the Father** except **through Me.** John 14:6*

God supplies all our needs through Christ.

*...**God shall supply all your need** according to His riches in glory **by Christ Jesus.** Phil. 4:19*

Jesus Christ promised that He would always be with us.

*...**I am with you always, even to the end of the age.**” Amen. Matthew 28:20*

We are being transformed into the image of the Lord

*But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being **transformed into the same image** from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord. 2 Corinthians 3:18*

Jesus promised that He and the Father will dwell with those who love and obey Him.

*Jesus answered and said to him, “If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and **We will come to him and make Our home with him.** John 14:23*

God lives in you as a temple of the living God.

*“...For **we are the temple of the living God.** As God said: “**I will live in them** and walk among them. I will be their God, and they will be my people.” 2 Corinthians 6:16 NLT*

We rest in God who is the very definition of love.

*Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. ¹⁶ And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and **he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him.** 1 John 4:15-16*

We are sit together in the spirit in heaven in Christ.

*...raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places **in Christ Jesus,** Ep. 2:6*

We put on Christ like a robe or a glove.

*For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have **put on Christ.** Galatians 3:27 NKJV*

When we put on Christ then we are hidden in Christ.

*For you died, and your **life is hidden with Christ in God.** Colossians 3:3 NKJV*

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How are we hidden in Christ?

Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. James 4:7

Come to God in prayer Now that we know who we are **in Christ** and that **He is in us** through the Holy Spirit then we can come boldly to the throne of God's grace.

For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶ Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Hebrews 4:15-16 NKJV

Now have a true vision of our potential in Christ in prayer!

Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, ²¹ to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen. Ephesians 3:20-21

Q. How do we grow into the image of Christ?

A. Our complete obedience to God is required to form Christ in us. We may say that is impossible. In our own strength that is true, but God has given us His Holy Spirit to live in us and through us. It is *only* by God's Spirit that we are taught, trained, guided and strengthened to be transformed into the image to Christ. This is called sanctification and will take time as we yield our life to the Lord. Remember that Christ is the head and we are His body. As we surrender our life to the leadership of Christ, our head, we will come into submission and alignment with His will and His ways.

Jesus is so much greater than all of us. His power and ways transcend our understanding. If we are to grow into all that He has for us then we need to connect into what the Holy Spirit has for us. Open our hearts as Christ delights in revealing Himself to you through His word and prayer.

Your life as a follower of Christ will be challenging and will take sacrifice, effort and discipline, and will not be encouraged by the present fallen world system, but **it is infinitely better than the alternative!**

The good news can be simply stated that: Jesus laid down His life for you, so He could give His life to you, so that He could live through you in His kingdom of God.

Review

Q. How do we come to the Lord? A. In humility

Q. When you are born again you become? A. new creation

Q. What is our position before God?

A. We are *in* Christ, He is *in* us, we put *on* Christ and we are *hidden* in Christ

Prayer Lord please show me who I truly am *in* You and You are *in* me, and bless me with Your great grace to love you wholeheartedly as I surrender my life to You