

EXAMPLES OF PETITION

“Two things I ask of you, O Lord;
do not refuse me before I die:
Keep falsehood and lies far from me;
give me neither poverty nor riches,
but give me only my daily bread.
Otherwise, I may have too much and disown you
and say, ‘Who is the Lord?’
Or I may become poor and steal,
and so dishonor the name of my God.” (Proverbs 30:7-9)

“Give your servant a discerning heart to govern your people and to distinguish between right and wrong. For who is able to govern this great people of yours?” (1 Kings 3:9)

THE PRAYER OF JEBEZ

Jabez cried out to the God of Israel, “Oh, that you would bless me and enlarge my territory! Let your hand be with me, and keep me from harm so that I will be free from pain.” And God granted his request. (1 Chronicles 4:10)

They were all trying to frighten us, ...
But I prayed, “Now strengthen my hands.” (Nehemiah 6:1)

“My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me.
Yet not as I will, but as you will.” (Matthew 26:39)

“I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!” (Mark 9:24)

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;
in you I trust, O my God.
Do not let me be put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph over me. (Psalm 25:1-2)

Teach me your way, O Lord,
and I will walk in your truth;
give me an undivided heart,
that I may fear your name. (Psalm 86:11)

Hasten, O God, to save me;
O Lord, come quickly to help me. (Psalm 70:1)

Search me, O God, and know my heart;
test me and know my anxious thoughts.
See if there is any offensive way in me,
and lead me in the way everlasting. (Psalm 139:23-24)

Two categories of Prayer

- Responding
- Asking

Responding Prayers include:

- Praise
- Confession
- Worship
- Thanksgiving

In responding prayer you:

- Respond to God’s person hood
- Recognize who He is as God/ learning to be like Him

The emphasis becomes one of **being**. By sitting in His presence we learn of God’s love and His ways so we can become like Him.

“Be still and know that I am God.” (Psalm 46:10)

Asking Prayers include:

- Petition
- Intercession

Asking prayers are concerned with God’s work. The emphasis is on **doing**. As God leads the asking we become involved in his work.

Petition:

Praying for ones self and God’s work in our lives

Intercession:

Praying for God’s work in and through others.

God wants us as his children to become like Him, to reflect His character. In a love relationship with us He reveals Himself to us.

When we respond to God in prayer, we articulate a heart response to what we have come to understand in our heads, (minds) about God.

PRAISE

Responding to God's Attributes

His character traits are called attributes.

- Praise lifts up God by focusing on His Character.
- Praise acknowledges an appreciation for who God is and what He is like.
- We tend to become what we value and praise.
- Through praise we elevate God in the hearts and minds of those who are present.
- "I will praise God in the assembly." (Psalm 22:22)
- Through praise we open ourselves up for God to mold us into the image of His perfect Son, Jesus Christ.

Sample of God's Revelation of His character:

"The Lord, the Lord, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished.." (Exodus 34:6)

SHARING EXERCISE:

Take a minute to read through the attributes of God circle the ones that are most meaningful to you. Turn to a partner and share a time when God blessed you with on understanding of one of His character traits.

ATTRIBUTES OF GOD *

Able	Ever-Present	Indescribable	Pure
Almighty	Exalted	Invisible	Radiant
Abounding	Faithful	Jealous	Righteous
All Knowing	First	Just	Slow to Anger
All Powerful	Flawless	Kind	Spirit
Always Present	Forgiving	Last	Strong
Attentive	Gentle	Light	Supreme
Awesome	Glorious	Living	Sure
Beautiful	Good	Majestic	Tender
Blameless	Gracious	Merciful	True
Blessed	Has Authority	Mighty	Understanding
Compassionate	Has Integrity	Patient	Unfailing Love
Consuming Fire	Healing	Peaceful	Wise
Enthroned	Holy	Perfect	Wonderful
Eternal	In Love	Protective	Worthy of Praise

* Taken from: *In God's Presence*, T.W. Hunt and Claude V. King, LifeWay Press: Nashville, Tennessee

JESUS' MODEL PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

For His disciples Jesus requested

- unity,
- protection,
- deliverance, and
- sanctification (holiness).

"Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name—the name you gave me—so that they may be one as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by that name you gave me.

"My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified.

"My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one: I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me." (John 17:11-12, 15-23)

MOSES' INTERCESSION

But Moses sought the favor of the Lord his God. "O Lord," he said, "why should your anger burn against your people, whom you brought out of Egypt with great power and a mighty hand? Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out, to kill them in the mountains and to wipe them off the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce anger; relent and do not bring disaster on your people. Remember your servants Abraham, Isaac and Israel, to whom you swore by your own self: 'I will make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and I will give your descendants all this land I promised them, and it will be their inheritance forever.' " (Exodus 32:11-13)