

## **Series: Hot Potatoes**

*What's Prayer and How Do We Pray?*

December 30, 2018

1. Prayer is dialogue between us and God.

2. Jesus prayed...

*In the early morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house, and went away to a secluded place, and was praying there (Mk. 1:35).*

*After he sent the crowds away, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray; and when it was evening, He was there alone ((Mt. 14:23).*

*But Jesus Himself would often slip away to the wilderness and pray (Lk. 5:16).*

3. Jesus was guided by the Spirit (Luke 3:22; 4:1; 4:18).

4. *Qs. Should we pray in private or in public? What's this about praying in a closet? What did Jesus mean when He said, "And when you pray, do not keep on babbling?" Should we continuously pray the same thing?*

5. Tips for praying in public (or private):

1. Take your time.
2. Speak from your heart.
3. Block out the noise.

6. *Q. Should we pray every day/every morning as part of our devotional life?*

7. *Q. Is it o.k. to tell someone you're praying for them or to mention that you are praying for others?*

8. 1. Be sensitive.
2. Actually pray.
3. Respect privacy.

9. *Q. Should we pray just once for something (like healing or salvation) or should we pray repeatedly?*

10. Luke 11:5-12; 18:1-7.

11. December 23, 2019 Listening Prayer Exercise.

12. Let's *test everything and hold onto the good* (1 Thess. 5:21).

13. Test Qs.:

1. Is there anything condemning in what you heard?
2. Does it align with Scripture?
3. Would other Christians confirm it?
4. Does it call you to become more like Christ in a certain way or to do something that Christ might do?
5. Does it affirm you as loved by God and fill you with confidence and hope?