

**HIGHER**  
**Tools to Get Above It All**  
**Prayer - God's Change Agent**  
**Matthew 6:6-13**

**Key Points in Today's Message**

The purpose of prayer?

1. Connect with God in a relationship I cannot do without.
2. To find God as a loving father not a stern judge. Gal 4:6-7, Rom 8:15-16
3. Prayer causes God to do what God already wants to do. Isaiah 45:11, Ezek 36:37, Matt 9:37-38, Matt 7:7-8, James 4:2-3

**Next Steps**

Choose the one day next week you are most likely to have 30 minutes to spend with God:

1. Use SOAP (or your method) for this passage: Ephesians 3
2. Meditate on Ephesians 3:14-16
3. Pray back to God what comes to your mind about the passage

**Verses**

**Matthew 6:6-13**

6But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.7 “And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words. 8Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. 9Pray then like this:“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. 10 Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.11 Give us this day our daily bread, 12 and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

**Gal 4:6-7**

6And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” 7So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

### **Rom 8:15-16**

15For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" 16The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,

### **Isaiah 45:11**

11Thus says the Lord, the Holy One of Israel, and the one who formed him: "Ask me of things to come; will you command me concerning my children and the work of my hands?"

### **Ezek 36:37**

37"Thus says the Lord God: This also I will let the house of Israel ask me to do for them: to increase their people like a flock.

### **Matt 9:37-38**

37Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; 38therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

### **Matt 7:7-8**

7 "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. 8For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened.

### **James 4:2-3**

2You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. 3You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions.

### **Ephesians 3:14-16**

14For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, 15from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, 16that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being,