POCKET-SIZED PRAYER...

(1) How Do I Pray...?

PSALM 23...

The Lord is **MY** Shepherd, **I** shall not be in want. He makes **ME** lie down in green pastures, he leads **ME** beside quiet waters, he restores **MY** soul. He guides **ME** in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Even though **I** walk through the valley of the shadow of death, **I** will fear no evil, for you are with **ME**; your rod and your staff, they comfort **ME**. You prepare a table before **ME** in the presence of **MY** enemies. You anoint **MY** head with oil; **MY** cup overflows. Surely goodness and love will follow **ME** all the days of **MY** life, and **I** will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

1. THE "PERSON" TO WHOM WE PRAY!

"THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD"

The LORD...

IS...

MY...

SHEPHERD...

Reason WHY the LORD was likened to a SHEPHERD?

1. HE KNOWS US!

John 10:14... I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me...

2. HE RELATES TO US!

John 10:3-4... The watchman opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice.

3. HE LOVES US!

Matthew 9:36... When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

4. HE PROVIDES FOR US!

John 10:10... The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

5. HE SACRIFICED FOR US!

John 10:11... I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

John 10:15... ... just as the Father knows me and I know the Father - and I lay down my life for the sheep.

6. HE FEEDS US!

Psalm 23:5... You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.

"The LORD... IS... MY SHEPHERD!"

THIS... Is the PERSON to WHOM WE PRAY!

2. THE "PERFECT" EXAMPLE OF HOW TO PRAY!

Luke 11:1...

One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished... one of his disciples said to him... "Lord... **TEACH US TO PRAY...**"

~ PRAYER 101 ~

MATTHEW 6:9-13...

OUR FATHER

WHO ART IN HEAVEN...

HALLOWED BE THY NAME ...

THY KINGDOM COME... THY WILL BE DONE... ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN...

GIVE US THIS DAY OUR DAILY BREAD...

FORGIVE US OUR DEBTS... AS WE FORGIVE OUR DEBTORS...

FORGIVE US OUR DEBTS... AS... WE FORGIVE OUR DEBTORS

LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION... BUT DELIVER US FROM EVIL...

FOR THINE IS THE KINGDOM... AND THE POWER... AND THE GLORY FOREVER...

AMEN...

A Condensed VERSION of the Lord's Prayer...

Pray **REGULARLY**!

Pray **PRIVATELY**!

Pray SINCERELY!

Pray SPECIFICALLY!

3. THE "PATTERN" IN WHICH TO PRAY!

A.C.T.S.

'RESPONDING' Prayers ~ 'ASKING' Prayers

A... doration

PRAISE (RESPONDING to God's Attributes!)

Psalm 145:3-7...

Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise; his greatness no one can fathom. One generation will commend your works to another; they will tell of your mighty acts. They will speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty, and I will meditate on your wonderful works. They will tell of the power of your awesome works, and I will proclaim your great deeds. They will celebrate your abundant goodness and joyfully sing of your righteousness.

A... doration

WORSHIP (RESPONDING to God's Glory!)

Psalm 42:1-2... As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God...

> **C**... onfession (RESPONDING to God's Holiness!)

> > Psalm 51:1-4...

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion... blot out my transgressions. Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are proved right when you speak and justified when you judge.

> If you ever desire to have an INCREDIBLE PRAYER LIFE... YOU MUST DEAL WITH YOUR SINS... SPECIFICALLY!

> > **T...** hanksgiving (RESPONDING to God's Riches!)

Psalm 136:1-3...

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His love endures forever. Give thanks to the God of gods. His love endures forever. Give thanks to the Lord of lords... His love endures forever.

S... upplication

Philippians 4:6... Do not be **anxious** about **anything**, but in **everything**, by **prayer** and **petition**, with **thanksgiving**, **present your requests to God**.

PETITION

(ASKING that is LED by your Heavenly Father!)

INTERCESSION

(ASKING that is led by your Master!)

TWO Important THOUGHTS In Regards To PRAYER...

1. JESUS never taught His Disciples HOW TO PREACH... He taught them HOW TO PRAY!

2. JESUS never HOPED His Disciples would PRAY... He EXPECTED them to PRAY!