

S.O.H.L.

WEEKLY MINISTRY MEDITATIONS

Pronounced "Soul"

December 19, 2011

Genuine Communication

MATTHEW 6:5-8 NLT – (5) “When you pray, don’t be like the hypocrites who love to pray publicly on street corners and in the synagogues where everyone can see them. I tell you the truth, that is all the reward they will ever get. (6) But when you pray, go away by yourself, shut the door behind you, and pray to your Father in private. Then your Father, who sees everything, will reward you. (7) “When you pray, don’t babble on and on as people of other religions do. They think their prayers are answered merely by repeating their words again and again. (8) Don’t be like them, for your Father knows exactly what you need even before you ask him!

The key word is genuine, not putting on a front. Talking to God in a simple way, not going through the motions. Addressing Him about how you feel. Telling Him what He really means to you. Telling Him how you made a serious mistake. Asking Him how to initiate forgiveness towards someone that has hurt you. A relationship with Him is the very key to this simple communication. But even when we communicate with Him, let us not forget we can’t and should not address God as if He is one of the boys or girls we know. We must importantly understand who we are addressing. See (**EXODUS 3:2-12**). We are quick to bring to His attention what we want. Today, I would like to share with you a standard format I use upon reading the model prayer Jesus left with us.

MATTHEW 6:9-13 NLT – (9) Pray like this: Our Father in heaven, may your name be kept holy. (10) May your Kingdom come soon. May your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. (11) Give us today the food we need, (12) and forgive us our sins, as we have forgiven those who sin against us. (13) And don’t let us yield to temptation, but rescue us from the evil one.

In verse (9) it is important to address Him first and to worship Him for His Holiness. (Reverence & Respect). In verse (10) we must show that we are concerned about His plans first! His perfect will for His people. In verse (11) we tell Him our needs, not wants. Although He already knows what we need, it is very important that you communicate this very thing. God will sustain from giving us what we want (what we claim we need and do not). If we continue to pressure God about something we want and it is not good for us, well we might just get it. Just remember that old saying, “Be careful for what you ask for.” In verse (12) ask for forgiveness and we must not forget that God will only forgive if we do the same. Last in verse (13), we ask Him to deliver us from the evil that will approach us that day. This is only a format, but you must speak those words that come to your heart. Be genuine. Don’t try to be like someone else, be yourself and communicate to your Father genuinely.

SCRIPTURE READING

ISAIAH 25:1

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

When communicating, know when to talk and know when to listen.

December 1, 2011

