**Four Kinds of Prayer**

**Introduction:**

Read Psalm 42:8. “The Lord will command His lovingkindness in the daytime, And in the Night His song shall be with me – A prayer to the God of my life.” What a beautiful as well as comforting verse as it reads in the Modern English Version. *Praying to the God of my life!* Prayer is such a tremendous privilege for the child of God. We have this blessing of addressing God as our Heavenly Father. The Bible describes several types of prayers which are often categorized using the acronym ACTS. A person may use one or all in a single prayer.

**Body:**

1. **Adoration**

* Less we forget, prayer is as avenue of worship by which we approach Jehovah God. Therefore showing adoration for Him and praising His name is a vital duty in our prayers. Note the following examples:
  + Matthew 6:9 “Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.”
  + I Chronicles 29:10-13 “. . . Blessed are You, Lord God of Israel, our Father, forever and ever. . . Now therefore, our God, We thank You And praise Your glorious name.” NKJV David used words that show adoration to Jehovah.
  + II Chronicles 6:14 This thought is from Solomon. “and he said: Lord God of Israel, there is no God in heaven or on earth like You, who keep Your covenant and mercy with Your servants who walk before You with all their hearts.”
  + Revelation 19:5-7a “ . . .Praise our God . . . Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory,”

1. **Confession**

* Sins separate us from God. (Isaiah 59:1-2) Therefore we are called to remove those sins through confession. Jesus taught His disciples, “Forgive us our sins. . .” (Luke 11:4)
* Confession of wrongs has been necessary from the beginning. (II Chronicles 7:14-15) Solomon prayed, “if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.”
* Note Daniel’s prayer in Daniel 9:4-19. “. . .we have sinned and committed iniquity, we have done wickedly and rebelled . . .”
* One must continue to confess on a daily basis. (I John 1:8-9)

1. **Thanksgiving**

* Thanksgiving is the expression of gratitude to God for His many blessings. (Psalm 100:4-5) “Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, And into His courts with praise, Be thankful to Him, and bless His name. For the Lord is good; His mercy is everlasting, And His truth endures to all generations.”
* We should thank God for hearing us. (Psalm 118:21) “I will praise You, For You have answered me, And have become my salvation.”
* We should thank God for faithful Christians. (Ephesians 1:15-16) “Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers;” (I Thessalonians 1:2-3) “We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers. . .”
* We should thank God for all that is good. (I Timothy 4:4-5)

1. **Supplication**

* Our heavenly Father wants us to bring our requests to Him. (Philippians 4:6) “Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;” (Matthew 7:11) “If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!”
* We should pray for the needs and concerns of others. Note the prayer of Abraham’s servant. (Genesis 24:12-14) “Then he said, O Lord God of my master Abraham, please give me success this day, and show kindness to my master Abraham. . . . let her be the one You have appointed for Your servant Isaac. And by this I will know that You have shown kindness to my master.”
* Read Daniel’s petition to the Lord. (Daniel 9:16-18) “. . .we do not present our supplications before You because of our righteous deeds, but because of Your great mercies.”

**Conclusion:**

Read I John 3:21-22. “Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence toward God. And whatever we ask, we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight.” What an inspiring and comforting verse!

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