

January 18, 2026



# Oaks Early Risers Bible Class

## The Oaks Baptist Church

Grand Prairie, Texas



### Lesson Leaders:

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### Class Leader:

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### FOOD FOR THOUGHT

#### THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:

Of all the spiritual gifts listed in the Bible, prayer isn't among them. Perhaps this is because God longs for each of us to pray faithfully, so that we may see what He can do..

#### PRAYER OF THE WEEK:

Father, thank You that You want to hear from me! Please help me to treasure the opportunity to talk to You and pray for others each day.

#### SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK:

Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving.

(Colossians 4:2 NKJV)

(From "Our Daily Bread", July 15, 2024)

### Winter Series: Enduring Beliefs of the Church

#### UNIT 2: Grace and Reconciliation

#### NEXT WEEK

#### Call and Growth

Matthew 4:18-20; 16:16-18; John  
21:15-18; 2 Peter 3:14-15, 18

## Prayer and Humility

**Genesis 18:25-27; Luke 18:9-14; 1 John 5:14-15**

### Lesson Background and Introduction

The word pray occurs in 348 verses in the Bible in 74 different forms. Today's lesson takes us into three of those instances. We take care, however, to remember that these three textual segments occur within the broader context of the Bible as a whole. While there are times when prayer is, at best, a waste of time (Jeremiah 7:16; 11:14; 14:11; 1 John 5:16b; etc.) and at worst an improper substitute for action that God is expecting us to take (see Exodus 14:15), in the many circumstances where prayer is an appropriate action, there are various postures we might take.

### Key Verse: Luke 18:14

*I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.*

*(Adapted from the NIV Standard Lesson Commentary)*

## NOTES AND CROSS-REFERENCES

### **Bold Prayer (Gen 18:25-27)**

#### ***Abraham's petition for righteous judgment (25)***

Righteous judgment from God (Job 8:20)  
Righteous judgment that is not meaningless (Eccl 7:15)  
Righteous judgment that is promised by God (Isa 3:10-11)  
Righteous judgment that is different than what happens to the wicked (Mal 3:18)

#### ***The Lord's promise of deliverance if righteousness found (26-27)***

Deliverance provided through hiding in God (Ps 32:7)  
Deliverance provided through God's faithfulness (2 Cor 1:10)  
Deliverance provided through hope (1 Peter 1:3)  
Deliverance provided through righteousness (Ps 34:19)

### **Humble Prayer (Luke 18:9-14)**

#### ***Jesus' parable of two types of prayer (9-10)***

Prayer from a servant of God (1 Kings 8:30)  
Prayer of a diligent congregation (Luke 1:10)  
Prayer that is neglected in God's house (Luke 19:46)  
Prayer that does not result in accomplishment (Matt 21:28-31)

#### ***The Pharisee (11-12)***

Pharisees that sometimes reject God's purposes (Luke 7:30)  
Pharisees that believe in angels and the resurrection (Acts 23:8)  
Pharisees that sometimes act like hypocrites (Matt 6:5)  
Pharisees that sometimes love money and try to justify themselves (Luke 16:14-15)

### ***The tax collector (13-14)***

Tax collectors will love those who love them (Matt 5:46)  
Tax collectors were spiritually sick and needed healing by Jesus (Matt 9:11-12)  
Tax collectors sometimes would seek out Jesus to learn what to do (Luke 3:12-13)  
Tax collectors sometimes would seek out Jesus to hear Him (Luke 15:1-2)

### **Confident Prayer (1 John 5:14-15)**

#### ***Prayer according to God's Will (14)***

According to God's Will because of not knowing the future (James 4:13-15)  
According to God's Will because His Will must always override ours (Luke 22:42)  
According to God's Will because His Will is perfect (Rom 12:2)  
According to God's Will to obtain spiritual wisdom and understanding (Col 1:9)

#### ***God's response of answered prayer (15)***

Answered prayer through asking in the Name of Jesus (John 16:22-24)  
Answered prayer through being righteous (James 5:16-18)  
Answered prayer through obedience (1 John 3:21-22)  
Answered prayer because of seeking wisdom (James 1:5)