

1) Prayer is not about a ministry; it is about a relationship with God.

What are your thoughts about the following statement: "Since God has not called me to the ministry of prayer, then it is not really that great a priority for me?"

If prayer is communication with God, what should it look like? Is it different from communication with your spouse or someone in your family? If so, how?

Can people who are lost communicate with God? What happens to a person's communication with God when he or she becomes His child?

2) Effective, energized prayer is the type of prayer that God answers (James 5:16).

How often do people seek to know God's will about a matter before praying about it?

What role does the Holy Spirit play in helping someone know God's will?

Is it possible for the Holy Spirit to communicate to us today; and if He does so, how does it happen?

3) A righteous heart keeps the communication channels open between that person and God (James 5:16).

What has to happen in order for the communication channels between God and a person to be opened fully? What could hinder one's communication with God?

Once communication with God is established, how is it maintained?

Can a person keep his or her communication with God open without the help of the Holy Spirit? Explain.

4) God accomplishes powerful things when His righteous children pray according to His will (James 5:16).

What were some of the powerful things that God accomplished through Elijah's prayer life? (See 1 Kings 17-18)

What are some of the powerful things that God has done or may want to accomplish through the prayers of His children in today's world?

Is it expected that Christians today will hear God's voice or was that something strictly reserved for people in the Old Testament?

How hard is it to tell other people what God is saying to you personally, especially when it involves something that has not yet happened?

Is it difficult obeying God's commands when nobody else seems to be listening to Him?

Additional Scripture

- 1 John 5:14-15
- Romans 8:26-27
- John 16:13-14
- Philippians 3:8-9
- John 14:12-14