

**The Power of Prayer**  
**James 5:16, Eph 3:20-21**  
**By Russell Earl**

Thesis: I want to show the power we have in prayer.

- Intro:
1. The church should be a “praying church” (**Acts 2:42**).
  2. Do you recognize the power of prayer?
  3. Do you use the power that we have in your prayers?

I. What are some types of prayers?

A. Supplications (**Job 8:5** – Bildad the shuhite speaking to Job)

1. A petition to God. Also used by those in the Bible who made supplications” to a earthly king.
2. Also called a request or appeal. We appeal to God for our concerns as He is the only one who can address them.

B. Prayers (**1 Peter 5:6**)

1. A humble request before God.
2. A prayer can also be seen as a type of wish. A person “wishes” something could be a certain way, etc.

C. Intercessions (**Jer 7:16**).

1. A prayer on the behalf of another.
2. These are the types of prayers used when praying for the sick.

D. Thanksgivings (**1 Tim 4:4**).

1. Giving thanks to God.
2. Used for blessings that are given to us.

II. What does prayer do?

A. Christians can have sins forgiven.

1. Simon asked for prayers so he would be forgiven (**Acts 8:24**).
2. David did the same thing in his songs and in his prayers (**Ps 51:1-2**).

B. Christians can bring there concerns before God (**Matt 11:28**).

1. Our concerns and our worries should be put upon God.
2. Think about this! When we don’t bring our cares before God in prayer we say something as well. We say we don’t need the power of God! (**1 Peter 5:6-7**)

III. Results of Prayer

A. Physical results (**James 5:15-18**)

1. God’s answers to our prayers can produce physical results.
2. Amazing things can happen when we pray and God answers them according to His will.

B. Spiritual results (**Phil 4:6-7**).

1. When we come before God He will guard our hearts.
2. He will (in accordance to His will) give us peace of mind and give us rest.

C. Your prayers will be heard (**1 Peter 3:12**).

1. The Lord hears the prayers of His Saints.
2. Just because the answer isn't what we want does not mean God did not hear our prayer.
3. God hears our prayers-everyone one of them!

Conc: 1. Are you taken advantage of the power you have in prayer?

2. God wants your cares brought to Him!
3. Are you communicating with the Father as you should?
4. Full Invitation