

**Scripture:** Jeremiah 11:1-17 & Hebrews 11:1-6 LD 45 (3)

**Singing:** 397:1, 3, 5, 6 – 152:1-5 – 189:1-4 – 175:3-4

### **Prayer (3)**

I. Why? II. How? III. What?

Review: God taught us (again)

A. that to say your daily prayers is different from praying: Ezek. 33:31

B. that prayer is a means of grace God has called us to use: Luke 18:1; 11:9-13

C. that prayer & repentance belong together: Is. 1:15; Ps. 66:18; Prov. 15:29;  
28:9; Jer. 11:11-4

D. that prayer & reverence belong together: Heb. 12:28; Ps. 89:7, Cat. 120-121

### **II. THE HOW OF PRAYER**

A. Prayer without faith is displeasing to God (Hebrews 11:6)

1. Faith in God (His character and His promises) is required (James 1:6-7)

2. What is this childlike-faith God requires?

B. What then does please God greatly when I pray to Him?

1. that we believe He exists

2. that He is Who He is – how He reveals Himself to us in Scripture

a. that He rewards diligent seekers with finding (Ps. 81:8-16; Jer. 33:3)

b. that He is the Father of mercies and delights in showing them: 2 Cor.  
1:3; Jer. 9:24; Jonah 4:2; Micah 7:18

C. These revelations of Himself we are to study so it will encourage to come to Him in prayer: Hebrews 4:16

● Goodwin: *As large and as various as are our wants, so large and various are His mercies. So we may come boldly to find grace and mercy to help us in time of need, a mercy for every need. All the mercies that are in His own hart He has transplanted into several beds in the garden of His promises, where they grow, and He has a great abundance of variety of them, suited to all the variety of the diseases of the soul.*

### **III. THE 'WHAT' OF PRAYER: THE LORD'S PRAYER**

#### **Closing Reflection:**

A. *What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us!* (W. Tozer)

1. Even more important when we pray to Him

a. are you *fully persuaded* about Who and What He is?

● *Faith is the assurance that the thing which God has said in His Word is true and that He will act according to what He has said in His Word.* George Muller

b. to become fully persuaded implies hard work of studying His Word

B. But I struggle with *feeling so unworthy* that it inhibits my freedom to pray!

#### **Promises of God and Prayer**

We cannot rely on God's promises without obeying His commandments. (Calvin)

We must never promise ourselves more than what God has promised. (M Henry)

It is because God has promised certain things that we can ask for them with the full assurance of faith. (A. W. Pink)

The Bible is filled with promises made to prayer. (T. Watson)

You never pray with great power until ... you plead God's promises. (W. White)