PRAYER
**Talk 1: Why pray?**

**INTRODUCTION**

Basic issue

Basic thesis

**WHAT IS PRAYER?**

Assumptions

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**PRAYER IN THE BIBLE**

 **GROUP 1**

Psa. 10:12 Arise, LORD! Lift up your hand, O God. Do not forget the helpless.

Psa. 17:6 I call on you, O God, for you will answer me; give ear to me and hear my prayer.

Psa. 69:13 But I pray to you, O LORD, in the time of your favor; in your great love, O God, answer me with your sure salvation.

Acts 28:8 His father was sick in bed, suffering from fever and dysentery. Paul went in to see him and, after prayer, placed his hands on him and healed him.

Rom. 1:10 in my prayers at all times; and I pray that now at last by God’s will the way may be opened for me to come to you.

1 Th. 3:10 Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you again and supply what is lacking in your faith.

Philem. 22 And one thing more: Prepare a guest room for me, because I hope to be restored to you in answer to your prayers.

2 Th. 1:11 With this in mind, we constantly pray for you, that our God may count you worthy of his calling, and that by his power he may fulfill every good purpose of yours and every act prompted by your faith.

**GROUP 2**

2 Cor. 13:7 Now we pray to God that you will not do anything wrong.

Rom. 10:1 Brothers, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for the Israelites is that they may be saved.

2 Cor. 12:8 Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me.

Rom. 15:31 Pray that I may be rescued from the unbelievers in Judea and that my service in Jerusalem may be acceptable to the saints there, 32 so that by God’s will I may come to you with joy and together with you be refreshed.

2 Th. 3:1 Finally, brothers, pray for us that the message of the Lord may spread rapidly and be honored, just as it was with you.

Eph. 6:19 Pray also for me, that whenever I open my mouth, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, 20 for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.

James 1:5 If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him.

James 5:15 And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise him up. If he has sinned, he will be forgiven. 16 Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.

1 John 5:15 And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him

Prayer is………………………………………………………………………………

**PRAYER IS….**

1. **Asking God**

*James 4: 2 You want something but don’t get it….. You do not have, because you do not ask God.*

1. **To do his thing**

*1 Timothy 2:1-8*

1. **Using words**

*Ephesians 1:15-19*

**WHY PRAY?**

*Eph 6:18 And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests.*

*Phil. 4:6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.*

*Matthew 7:7 “Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. 8 For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened. 9“Which of you, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? 10 Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? 11 If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!*