



## Pray

**P**rayer is a most vital tool for Christians. Often, they don't understand it, and wonder why their prayer life suffers. *When you understand the types of prayer in the Bible, you will be equipped to pray more effectually, and you'll be surprised at the results.* Let's look at the different types of prayer and learn how to become more prayerful Christians.

### Proseuche (Earnest)

Proseuche is earnest prayer, a type of prayer that takes place over a long period of time and that is done with great earnest.

It is the type of prayer that



Jesus said was needed to put spiritual problems at bay, the type of prayer that Jesus used before his crucifixion while his disciples were sleeping, the type of prayer that the apostles did for the church, and the same type of prayer that the disciples offered daily in the temple. It is the type of prayer that you do on a prayer day.

Acts 6:4 But we will give ourselves continually to prayer [proseuche], and to the ministry of the word.

The Apostles gave themselves CONTINUALLY to earnest prayer. Even if you don't understand exactly what this means, you can garner that they were very prayerful men. Be very prayerful, praying with great earnest every day.

Rom 15:30 Now I beseech you, brethren, for the Lord Jesus Christ's sake, and for the love of the Spirit, that ye strive together with me in your prayers [proseuche] to God for me;

Can you imagine striving to pray earnestly? What a worthy goal!

2 Th 3:1 Finally, brethren,

# Pray

pray [proseuchomai] for us, that the word of the Lord may have free course, and be glorified, even as it is with you:

Paul is asking the believers to pray earnestly for him and the other leadership for a very specific reason—that the word of the Lord may have free course. Take this on and become a great helper of the move of God’s word in your fellowship.

## Euchomai (Gratitude)

Euchomai means ‘to show gratitude’. It is used in 3 John 2 as the word “wish.”

3 John 1:2 Beloved, I wish [euchomai] above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.

Not only does this word mean ‘wish,’ it means to show gratitude.

John was grateful that, above all things, the believers prospered and were in health. What do you wish for? Hopefully the same thing. *Be grateful for your health and prosperity.*

**Euchomai is used with proseuche:**

Euchomai is a necessary ingredient to be used with proseuche. It is translated into a form of ‘thanks,’ meaning ‘a show of gratitude’.

Eph 1:16 Cease not to give thanks [eucharisto] for you, making mention of you in my prayers [proseuche];

Thank God for the believers and make mention of them when you pray earnestly.

Col 1:3 We give thanks [eucharisto] to God and

the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying [proseuche] always for you,

This is very similar to Ephesians 1:16. Be thankful for others and pray for them.

Col 4:2 Continue in prayer [proseuche], and watch in the same with thanksgiving [eucharistia];

Continue praying earnestly. This means that we are supposed to be very prayerful, every day.

These three verses have shown us the importance of praying with thankfulness. Isn’t it wonderful when we allow God’s word to speak for itself?

## Deesis (Request)

Deesis is a petition or request. It’s like a list of things you give to God.

# Pray

Luke 1:13 But the angel said unto him, Fear not, Zacharias: for thy prayer [deesis] is heard; and thy wife Elisabeth shall bear thee a son, and thou shalt call his name John.

Zacharias had been making requests to God when the angel came and talked to him about his son, John.

Acts 8:24 Then answered Simon, and said, pray [deomai] ye to the Lord for me, that none of these things which ye have spoken come upon me.

Deesis is used of prayers for specific requests like praying that someone has believing, healing, power, boldness, etc. It is used when asking for forgiveness. Simon used it.

1 Th 3:10 Night and day praying [deomai] exceedingly that we

might see your face, and might perfect that which is lacking in your faith [believing]?

It is used when you want to see someone, face to face, and want to help that person with his believing.

**Deesis is used with proseuche:**

Eph 6:18 Praying always with all prayer [proseuche] and supplication [deesis] in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication [deesis] for all saints;

*When you are earnestly praying, don't be bashful.* List the things you need God to care for.

**Deesis is used with proseuche and eucharisto:**

Phil 4:6 Be careful [anxious] for nothing; but in everything by prayer proseuche and supplication deesis with thanksgiving eucharistia let your requests be made known unto God.

Verse six contains a powerful key on delivery from anxiety. Earnestly pray and provide your list of requests to God—with thanksgiving!

**Parakaleo (Comfort)**

Parakaleo means to 'pray for comfort'. Jesus did this when he said that he could pray for 12 legions of angels. He could have asked God to comfort him immediately.

Mat 26:53 Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray

# Pray

[parakaleo] to my Father, and he shall presently give me more than twelve legions [72,000] of angels?

That's a powerful example of a type of prayer you can also use. Can you imagine what it would have looked like if 72,000 angels showed up?

It is used about Paul when he had a vision and a man of Macedonia asking him to come help him.

Acts 16:9 And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed [parakaleo] him, saying, Come over into Macedonia, and help us.

In the vision, God showed Paul that he needed to go to Macedonia to comfort that man.

*What would you do if you received a dream like this?*

## Enteuxis (Intercession)

Enteuxis means to fall in with, to intercede for someone, to plead the cause of. It is what Jesus Christ does for us on a continual basis. It is what leaders have to do for their people on a continual basis.

1 Tim 2:1 I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions [enteuxis], and giving of thanks, be made for all men;

This verse is loaded with the types of prayer. I first wanted to point out enteuxis. 'Intercessions' is a good translation for this word. It means to pray on behalf of someone or something.

1 Tim 2:1 I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions [enteuxis], and giving of

thanks, be made for all men;

In this verse, we also see:

- Supplications deesis
- Prayers proseuche
- Giving of thanks eucharistia

Let's put this together. We are exhorted that, FIRST OF ALL... This applies great emphasis to what follows. In common terms, we should be praying like this first and foremost for all men.

Make your requests (supplications) in your earnest prayers, by interceding with thanksgiving for all men. Can you believe that these show up in one verse? It's rather fantastic, I'd say.

1 Tim 2:2 For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all

# Pray

---

godliness and honesty.

The next verse includes kings and for all that are in authority.

We are supposed to pray for all men, kings and all in authority for one reason—so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. I'd say that we now have a good reason to apply all the types of prayer. Wouldn't you?

*I'd like to close with a very special verse, one that, if applied, will help you out of your secret troubles and into a lifetime of deliverance.*

James 5:16 Confess your faults one to another, and pray [euchomai] one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer [deesis] of a righteous man availeth much.

I'd like to give you a literal according to usage of this verse.

Acknowledge your problems one to another and show gratitude one for another that you may be made whole. The energetic prayer requests of a righteous man exercises tremendous force.

Let's get busy and pray according to God's word! You'll love the results.

Much love in Christ!

Jerry D. Brown