

A Time with the Lord – Guidelines for Having a Set Time of Fellowship with the Lord

For those of us who are not used to having a time of fellowship with the Lord, such a time may be awkward; we may not know what to do or say. To help us overcome this problem, we introduce a set of guidelines, consisting of seven steps. These are not intended to be mechanical, rigid, or legal. Use these like training wheels - the more you practice fellowshiping with the Lord, you will not need this anymore.

Calling – Calling on the name of the Lord to help us set our mind on our spirit – ½ min

Call from deep within, audibly

1 Cor. 12:3 - Therefore I make known to you that no one speaking in the Spirit of God says, Jesus [is] accursed; and no one can say, Jesus [is] Lord! except in the Holy Spirit.

Rom. 8:6 - For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the spirit is life and peace.

Rom. 10:12-13 - For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord [is] [Lord] of all [and] rich to all who call upon Him; For "whoever calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

2 Cor. 10:5 - As we overthrow reasonings and every high thing rising up against the knowledge of God, and take captive every thought unto the obedience of Christ.

Psa. 62:1 - My soul waits in silence for God alone; / My salvation is from Him.

Praying – Opening our heart to the Lord, telling Him what we want from Him – 1 min

The key here is to be genuine, say something to the Lord, telling Him what we want. "Lord, I really need you today." "Lord, keep me today." "Lord, I give this time to You, I really want to touch You, enjoy You, eat You in the Word." Precise words are not the important thing. The important thing is to say something to the Lord, to open our heart, turn our heart all the way.

2 Cor. 3:16 - But whenever [their heart] turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away.

Psa. 27:4 - One thing I have asked from Jehovah; / That do I seek: / To dwell in the house of Jehovah / All the days of my life, / To behold the beauty of Jehovah, / And to inquire in His temple.

Psa. 42:2 - My soul thirsts for God, / For the living God. / When will I come and appear / Before God?

Psa. 62:8 - Trust in Him at all times, O people; / Pour out your heart before Him; / God is a refuge to us. Selah

Pray-reading – Using our spirit to contact the Spirit in the Word by mingling our reading with prayer and personalizing the Word in our prayer – 2 ½ mins.

Personalize the words of the Bible and turn it to prayer. Personalize it with words "I" or "me", "You" or "Your". Begin, through the Word, to have a living conversation with the Lord. Very often, this leads us, in a very spontaneous way, to the next step, confession.

Eph. 6:17-18 - And receive the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which [Spirit] is the word of God, By means of all prayer and petition, praying at every time in spirit and watching unto this in all perseverance and petition concerning all the saints,

2 Tim. 3:16 - All Scripture is God-breathed and profitable for teaching, for conviction, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,

Confession – Confessing our sins in the Lord's light to remove all hindrances to the fellowship with Him – 1 min.

Often as we are pray-reading, enjoying the Lord, focusing on the Lord, the Lord enlightens us, reminds of us of sins, and right there we can confess, and the Lord's blood will wash us, and then we can continue with the fellowship. It's very difficult to separate these two steps of pray-reading and confessing. As we are enjoying the Lord, we have to remember God is light. In the light, that is when we are in fellowship with God as light, he shines on us, and spontaneously, we have

some sense in our conscience. Whenever that comes, we need to confess our sins, enjoy the cleansing of the blood, so that we can enjoy a deeper fellowship with the Lord through our pray-reading.

1 John 1:7 - But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from every sin.

1 John 1:9 - If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Psa. 66:18 - If I regarded iniquity in my heart, / The Lord did not hear.

Isa. 59:1-2 - No, Jehovah's hand is not so short that it cannot save; / Nor is His ear so heavy that it cannot hear. But your iniquities have become a separation / Between you and your God, / And your sins have hidden [His] face / From you so that He does not hear.

Consecration – Presenting ourselves to the Lord afresh, giving Him the full ground in us – ½ min.

Consecration is not a promise that we will not sin that day or that we will not stray away from the Lord that day. Consecration is just giving the Lord the ground in our heart and in our day. Daily, we need to consecrate ourselves afresh to the Lord.

Rom. 12:1-2 - I exhort you therefore, brothers, through the compassions of God to present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, well pleasing to God, [which is] your reasonable service. And do not be fashioned according to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and well pleasing and perfect.

Rom. 6:13 - Neither present your members as weapons of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as alive from the dead, and your members as weapons of righteousness to God.

Rom. 6:19 - I speak in human [terms] because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members as slaves to uncleanness and lawlessness unto lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness unto sanctification.

Mark 12:30 - And you shall love the Lord your God from your whole heart and from your whole soul and from your whole mind and from your whole strength."

Thanksgiving – Giving thanks and praising – ½ min.

Offer thanks for the Lord for something or praise Him. It's a very good practice for believers to practice thanking the Lord. Practice giving thanks to the Lord everyday

Eph. 5:20 - Giving thanks at all times for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to [our] God and Father,

1 Thes. 5:18 - In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

Petition – Praying for others or for personal needs or guidance – 1 min.

Pray for some specific things. You might want to pray for some things you might face later in the day – for example a big test; or you might want to pray specifically for some of your friends to be saved.

1 Tim. 2:1 - I exhort therefore, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercessions, thanksgivings be made on behalf of all men; **Eph. 6:18** - By means of all prayer and petition, praying at every time in spirit and watching unto this in all perseverance and petition concerning all the saints,

Matt. 7:7 - Ask and it shall be given to you; seek and you shall find; knock and it shall be opened to you.

Psa. 143:8 - Cause me to hear Your lovingkindness in the morning, / For in You I trust. / Make known to me the way on which I should walk, / For to You I lift up my soul.