



Fulton Street prayer
meeting, 1858 (Harper's
Weekly)

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Prayer is the grand means of drawing near to God. It is the breath of our spiritual life.

--John Wesley

**Prayer is the most important work in the kingdom of
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Were we to select a single characteristic of personal declension more marked than another, we should feel no hesitation in adopting the decay of the spirit of prayer as that feature. --Octavius Winslow

**Of all the traits of a life LIKE CHRIST there is none
higher and more glorious than conformity to Him in
. . . intercession. --Andrew Murray**

What is Prayer?

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**Prayer is an offering up of our desires unto God
for things agreeable to His will,
in the name of Christ,
with confession of our sins,
and
thankful acknowledgement of His mercies.**

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Psalm 62:8

Trust in the Lord, O righteous one,
for the Lord is my rock and my fortress,
my deliverer and my God.

He will save me from all my troubles,
for he will not be angry with me.

My heart is fixed on the Lord,
for he is my rock and my fortress,
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**Trust in Him at all times, O people;
Pour out your heart before Him;
God is a refuge for us.**



Hard to pray?

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To speak specifically of the lack of prayer, and the desire of living a fuller prayer life, how many are the difficulties to be met!

We have so often resolved to pray more and better, and have failed. We have not the strength of will some have. . . The press of duty is as great as ever it was. It is so difficult to find time for more prayer. . .

**And our prayers, instead of being a joy and a strength,
are a source of continual self-condemnation and
doubt.**

--Andrew Murray

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*Our spirits being composed into a very reverent,
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By doing obeisance we learn obedience.

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Psalm 62:8b

Hosea 14:2a

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Psalm 102:2

Psalm 143:7

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3. Because we mistake the primary *purpose* for praying.

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Draw near to God and He will draw near to you
(James 4:8a (NASB)).

The LORD is near to all who call upon Him, To all who call upon
Him in truth. He will fulfill the desire of those who fear Him; He
will also hear their cry and will save them
(Psalm 145:18-19 (NASB)).

Therefore, let us draw near with confidence to the throne
of grace, so that we may receive...
(Hebrews 4:16a (NASB)).

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