

# Lesson 7: Practical Prayer

## A. Praying in a crisis

1. 1 Kings 18:37 What are your thoughts about Elijah's prayer at a time of crisis for the nation of Israel?
2. How did the LORD God respond to Elijah's simple prayer and what was the response of the people gathered on Mount Carmel? 1 Kings 18:38
3. How did Elijah pray in a time of personal crisis following the showdown on Mount Carmel? 1 Kings 19:1-4
4. How did the LORD God respond to this prayer by Elijah? 1 Kings 19:5-18
5. What does this story teach us both about prayer and about the character of our prayer-answering God?

## B. When prayers seem unanswered

1. What apparent delayed answer to his prayer did Elijah the prophet experience? 1 Kings 18:41-45
2. Sometimes God's answer to our prayer is "No". When did God say "No" to a prayer of Elijah? (1 Kings 19:4)
3. Share a time when you experienced a delayed answer to your prayer or a negative answer from God. What did you learn through that experience?

## C. Lessons about prayer from Jesus

1. What practical instruction did Jesus give regarding prayer? Matthew 6:5-8
2. How did Jesus respond to the request of His disciples who wanted to learn how to pray? Luke 11:1-4
3. The Lord's Prayer begins with praise. Why is praise to God an important part of our prayer time with God? Psalm 18:3, 100:4, 9:1-2, 92:1-2, etc.
4. What other important elements do you see in the Lord's Prayer?
5. What can we learn from the words of Jesus recorded in Matthew 6:9?
6. What can we learn about how to pray from the prayers of Jesus? Luke 10:21-22, John 11:41-42, Luke 22:41-42, John 17, Luke 6:12, etc.

## D. More practical lessons about prayer

1. What lessons about prayer can we learn from the following admonitions of the Apostle Paul? Colossians 4:2, 1 Thessalonians 5:17, Ephesians 6:18
2. What other practical lessons about prayer have you found in the Scriptures? Ezra 10:1, Nehemiah 1:4-11, Daniel 9:3-19, etc.
3. Share a time of prayer that was especially meaningful for you.
4. How might your prayer time with God change in response to our study today?