



CELL GUIDE

TOPIC Can I Pray for You?

SPEAKER

SP Chua Seng Lee

THEME #CanIPrayForYou

DATE

20 & 21 January 2024

MESSAGE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

In this week's sermon of the #CanIPrayForYou series, SP Chua Seng Lee unpacks what prayer is all about and how BBTCians can obey God's Word by developing a lifestyle of evangelism.

PRAYER: WHAT IS IT?

Prayer is an ongoing conversation with God, an affirmation of His will and desire for our lives as well as a petition of real needs. God desires for us to call out to Him in prayer and He will answer us and share with us great and hidden things (Jeremiah 33:3).

1) Prayer is an ongoing conversation with God.

Prayer is more than just telling God what we want. It is a two-way conversation and we must be ready to both speak and listen to God. It is only when we desire to and are ready to listen that God will speak to us. If not, we may continually miss out on the answers to our prayers.

2) Prayer is an affirmation of His will and desire for our lives.

It is important to remember who we are praying to. We pray to our Father who is in Heaven, the source of all good things and heavenly blessings. He is the one who loves us perfectly and wants only good things for us. We build a relationship with God through prayer and allow Him to align our desires with what pleases Him. We trust His plans for us and pray for His will to be done in our lives.

3) Prayer is a petition of real needs.

There are 7 petitions outlined in Matthew 6:9-13, which provides us with handles on what we can pray for in alignment with God's desires for us:

- #1 HALLOWED BE YOUR NAME – We start by praising and honouring God, for He is holy and sanctified
- #2 YOUR KINGDOM COME – We eagerly await for God to establish a new Heaven and Earth as announced in the Abrahamic covenant (Matthew 8:11) and revealed in Revelation 21:1.

- #3 YOUR WILL BE DONE ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN – We pray for God to conform us to his divine will such that what we want is to follow Jesus and fulfil his purpose. God accomplishes his will through those who are willing to obey him
- #4 GIVE US THIS DAY OUR DAILY BREAD – We trust in God as He is our Ultimate Provider and sustenance. We feed ourselves daily with His word for spiritual nourishment while trusting Him entirely for tomorrow.
- #5 AND FORGIVE US OUR DEBTS AS WE ALSO HAVE FORGIVEN OUR DEBTORS – We have all fallen short. In order for us to forgive those who've hurt us, we must first receive God's forgiveness for our wrongdoings. Then we will have the strength to forgive others.
- #6 AND DO NOT LEAD US INTO TEMPTATION - We pray for deliverance against temptation and God will not allow us to be tempted beyond what we can bear.
- #7 BUT DELIVER US FROM EVIL - We end by praising God once again for there is no evil more powerful than God.

Jesus has taught us the *who*, *what* and *how* of prayer. This coming month, let's start to *identify* the people in our lives who do not know God yet for the #CanIPrayForYou movement. *Interact* with them by befriending and blessing them and better understand their needs and hurts. Then *intercede* for them. Ask if you can pray for them and allow God to respond to them.

CONCLUSION

Darkness is all around us and we have been called to bring light and life to this world. The harvest is plentiful and the time is now. Are you willing to say yes to God? Call on God and allow Him to speak to you and lead you in turning your loved ones to Him.

SPECIAL: #CANIPRAYFORYOU

Watch SP's and DSP's videos about the #CanIPrayForYou movement that we've launched in BBTC this year.

SP Chua Seng Lee: <https://youtu.be/SsTWrb4EsXM>

DSP Edric Sng: https://youtu.be/ag_zUZai2d4

QUESTIONS

1. Reflect on your prayer life in 2023. How have you grown in your relationship with God? Share an instance when He spoke to you.

2. Of the 3 aspects of prayer that was covered in the sermon, which is the hardest for you and why? Which aspect would you like to intentionally grow in this year?

3. Identify someone whom God has placed in your heart to reach out to through prayer. What is an immediate next step that you can take to reach out to them?