

# THE LOGIC OF PRAYER

Luke 11:1-4

**“Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.”  
(Revelation 3:20)**

# THE HEART OF PRAYER

- ⦿ Intimate fellowship with God
- ⦿ God the initiator of prayer
- ⦿ Listening and responding in love
- ⦿ Context: our human frailty

# WHICH IS WORSE?

1. To not pray
2. To pray for the wrong things



# THE SUBSTANCE OF PRAYER: FAITH

*“Therefore I tell you, **whatever** you ask for in prayer, **believe** that you have received it, and it will be yours.”*

- ⦿ Whatever seems **humanly impossible** is made possible through praying in faith.
- ⦿ Faith is **trusting in Jesus** and **perseveres in the midst of doubts**.
- ⦿ Faith is really believing **what God says in His Word** – and this often involves **action** and **risk-taking**.

# Cultivate a habit of prayerfulness

**Present your  
to the Lord**

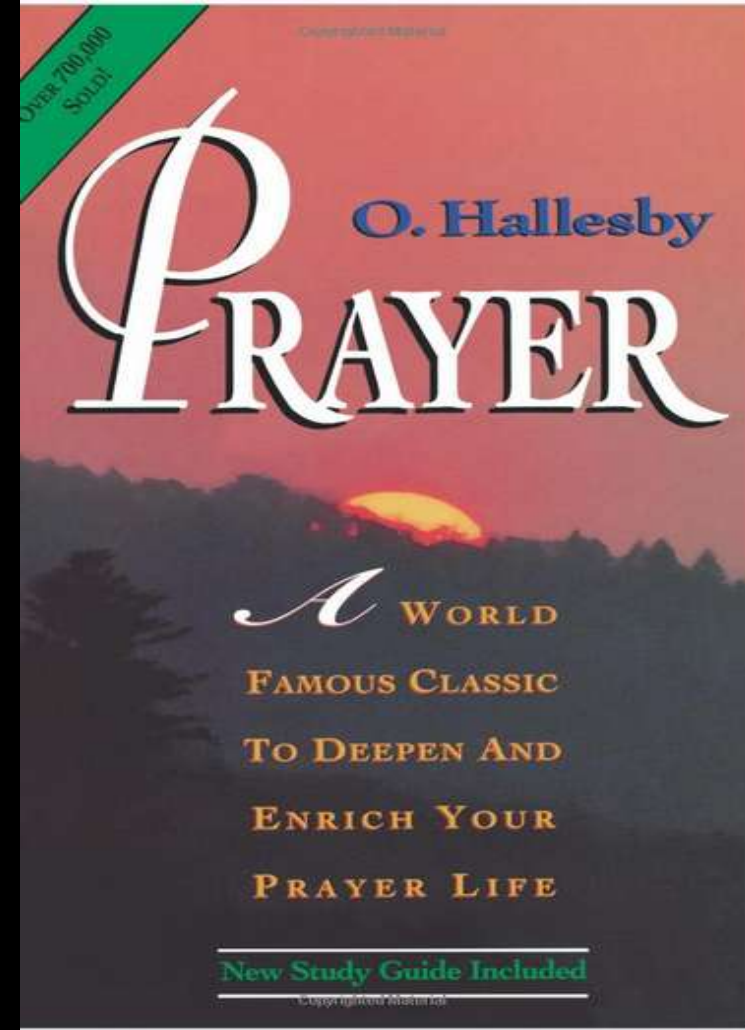
**Pour out  
your soul**

**Go in peace,  
& move on**

**LISTEN**

**LISTEN**

**LISTEN**



OLE HALLESBY (1879–1961) was one of Norway's leading Christian teachers and devotional writers. During World War II he was imprisoned for his resistance to the Nazi regime. He worked as a seminary professor in Oslo until his death.

# THE LOGIC OF PRAYER?

- Matt 6:8 – “For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him”
- God loves us very much
- God is more concerned about His Kingdom than we are.

*“Then He said to them, The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few; therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into His harvest.” Luke 10:2*



# THE LOGIC OF PRAYER?

2 So He said to them, When you pray, say:  
Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name.

**Your kingdom come.** Your will be done  
On earth as it is in heaven.

3 **Give us** day by day our daily bread.

4 And **forgive us** our sins,  
For we also forgive everyone  
who is indebted to us.

And do not lead us into temptation,  
But **deliver us** from the evil one.

# THE LOGIC OF PRAYER

## *Theology:*

- ⦿ *God has chosen to work through us.*
- ⦿ *“If things were going to happen anyway, what would be the purpose of prayer? God has apparently given Himself a self-imposed restriction – to act in the affairs of man in response to prayer.”*

*(Bill Johnson, “When Heaven Invades Earth”)*

# THE LOGIC OF PRAYER

## *Theology:*

- ⦿ “Prayer has one function, and that is to answer ‘Yes’, when He knocks, to open the soul and give Him the opportunity to bring us the answer.”
- ⦿ e.g. waiting, fasting – “to induce us to open our hearts ... to put away all those things which would distract us and prevent us from hearing Jesus knock, that is, from hearing the Spirit of prayer when He tries to tell us what God is waiting to give us if we will only ask for it.”

*(O Hallesby, “Prayer”)*

# QUESTIONS: THE LOGIC OF PRAYER

- ⦿ What should we pray for?

- ⦿ Should I act, or should I pray?

- ⦿ Praying in *Faith*

(= really believing what God says in His Word – which often involves action and risk-taking)

## SUMMARY: THE LOGIC OF PRAYER

Our prayer makes a real difference.

“you do not have, because you do not ask”

James 4:3

“God has made Himself vulnerable to the desires of His people. History unfolds according to what we do, what we pray, what we don't do and what we don't pray.”

*(Bill Johnson, “When Heaven Invades Earth”)*

# **APPLICATION: THE LOGIC OF PRAYER**

1. Praying a lot more.
2. Praying for ourselves.
3. Praying for others (intercession).
  1. Praying for healing, justice & peace in our nation & in our world.

# “THY KINGDOM COME”

“God has voluntarily bounded Himself to us in His government of the world. From the very beginning ... we see that God has established His Kingdom only where He could find people who would voluntarily permit themselves to be used by Him.

*(O Hallsby, “Prayer”)*

## NEWS

### PRAYER MINIST

#### PRE-SERVICE PRAYER

Every Sunday, 8am - 9am

#### WOMEN'S PRAYER (W)

Every Sunday, 11:30am

#### MEN'S PRAYER:

Every Tuesday & Saturday

#### UPPER ROOM APPOINTMENT (U.R.A):

Wednesday, 6 March 2013, 7:45pm @ Chapel, Level 4

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**Your kingdom come.** Your will be done

On earth as it is in heaven.

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For we also forgive everyone who is indebted to us.

And do not lead us into temptation,

But deliver us from the evil one.





# U.R.A. – “THY KINGDOM COME”

“The powers of heaven are at our disposal”

“The greatest transmission of power takes place through the believer’s prayers and intercessions ... In prayer the Church ... if it would stand together on its knees, would dominate world politics – from the prayer room.”

*(O Hallesby, “Prayer”)*

# **APPLICATION: THE LOGIC OF PRAYER**

1. Praying a lot more.
2. Praying for ourselves.
3. Praying for others (intercession).
4. Praying for healing, justice & peace in our nation & in our World.
- 5. Practicals:**
  - a. Prayer Booklet
  - b. Advice for Busy People

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# HEART, SUBSTANCE, LOGIC **OF PRAYER**

“When humanity fell into sin,  
our souls were not only cut off from God,  
but the whole wiring system was destroyed.  
To restore it, Jesus had to suffer and die.

The wiring is now in order again.  
We may all [by faith] re-establish contact with,  
and make use of,  
the powers of the heavenly world.”

# HEART, SUBSTANCE, LOGIC **OF PRAYER**

”It is by prayer that we couple the powers of heaven to our helplessness, the powers which can turn water into wine and remove mountains in our own life and in the lives of others, the powers which can awaken those who sleep in sin, and raise up the dead, the powers which can capture strongholds and make the impossible possible.”

*(O Hallelusby, “Prayer”)*