

## 1.09 Prayer





#### What is this TXT Fondue program about?

The goal of this program is to give everyone the right and the opportunity, to learn how to express themselves to the heavenly Father. The way to Him has been prepared; the floor is yours. In addition, through this program we want to explain what prayer really means, and encourage you to courageously take steps in joint and individual prayer.

#### How is a TXT Fondue played?

Two teams take turns in asking each other questions. There usually are 12 questions for each team. The team that has question 1a begins with asking. After the question has been asked and in some cases a passage from the Scriptures has been read, the other team has one minute to discuss their answer. Then they give their final answer and the team that asked the question decides whether the answer is correct. Keep in mind that if your team demands strict answers, the other team will do the same.

#### Not the answer but the process

With a TXT Fondue, it's not about the answer, but all about the process. Questions will lead to new questions, which is good, but keep these thoughts until after the TXT Fondue, so that the program may continue fluently and dynamically. That is important, because a TXT Fondue is actually a sermon that is divided into chunks. It is apostles' teaching (Acts 2:42), so just like any sermon it has a structure that builds up to an application. Those who wish to go indepth can do so afterwards.

#### Referee

Like the referee ensures that the rules of play are respected, the elder in a house feast supervises that all that is said remains Biblical (1 Timothy 4:16). There are just two rules: if someone says something unbiblical, the elder takes corrective action, like a referee in football issues a yellow card. In case of sin, he intervenes, comparable to a red card.

#### Feedback

Have you got a suggestion? Did you discover an error in a TXT Fondue program? Let us know through <a href="HuisfeestNetwerk.org">HuisfeestNetwerk.org</a>! Questions regarding the contents can be discussed with the House Feast Network at <a href="facebook.com/HouseFeastNetwork">facebook.com/HouseFeastNetwork</a>.

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#### What is the House Feast Network?

Those who are in the house feasts intend to reach all people in their own network who have not yet been reached with the gospel.

#### Networking

Of course you are curious to see how other house feasts do things. You wish to pay each other visits, help each other, and in any case you celebrate a large feast together, three times a year. To facilitate this, we have set up a House Feast Network group on Facebook: <a href="mailto:facebook.com/HouseFeastNetwork">facebook.com/HouseFeastNetwork</a>. Elders can exchange their experiences at <a href="mailto:facebook.com/groups/Oudsten">facebook.com/groups/Oudsten</a>.

#### Share impressions

House feasts support one another by continually sharing photos in "The House Feast Network". House feasts unite because of this. We prefer that the ambience pictures you share do not intrude people's privacy.

#### What is the Learnhouse?

A collection of 84 TXT Fondue programs together form a complete training to spiritual maturity. It is composed of 7 fundaments, with 12 programs per fundaments. The program you now hold is part of the first fundament: conversion.

We recommend you to read the books of Mark and Galatians while you take the 12 lessons in this fundament

**Previous program:** 1.08 The Son of man

**This program:** 1.09 Prayer

**Next program:** 1.10 Ishmael

For an overview of all

programs, see the <u>Learnhouse</u>.

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# 1.09 Prayer EN fundament conversion



### 1a. What is prayer?

(answer) Speaking with God the Father; this is a lifestyle.

#### 2a. Does silent prayer exist? Please explain.

(answer) No, thoughts don't count, because you can revoke them. What you speak, [staat vast]. The volume is not important, but the clarity is.

## 3a. Who made it possible for the heathens (Gentiles) that you can pray to your heavenly Father?

(answer) King Jesus alone has opened the way between God the Father and His children. He brings us in contact with God the Father.

(comment) In John 16:23b, King Jesus says: "Very truly I tell you, my Father will give you whatever you ask in my name."

4a. Before you can properly pray, you first need to check a couple of things. The first is: do you still have to forgive someone for something? About this, King Jesus says in Mark 11:25:

"And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive them, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins. And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive them, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins."

#### Why must you forgive others?

(answer) Because then, God the Father can serve you with the same sauce and forgive you. You can only appear for God the Father when you are blameless.



5a. (Please read the bold text of this question aloud.)
Someone from the team asking the question will explain, when you pray wrong, without being allowed to use the word itself. The other team will try and guess this "forbidden word".

(answer) Egoism.

(comment) James 4:1–3 says: "What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? You desire but do not have, so you kill. You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight. You do not have because you do not ask God. When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures."

**6a.** Is God the Father interested in every prayer, at every moment? Please explain. (answer) Yes, He looks forward to you praying to Him, so that He can do something with it. (comment) So that also counts when you pray wrong, because then He can give you insight. About how He loves to see and hear you, Song of Solomon 2:13b-14 for example says: "Arise, come, my darling; my beautiful one, come with me. My dove in the clefts of the rock, in the hiding places on the mountainside, show me your face, let me hear your voice; for your voice is sweet, and your face is lovely."







7a. The next few questions are about the following parable of King Jesus in Luke 18:1-8:

"Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up. He said:

'In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor cared what people thought. And there was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, "Grant me justice against my adversary."

'For some time he refused. But finally he said to himself, "Even though I don't fear God or care what people think, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she gets justice, so that she won't eventually come and attack me!"

And the Lord said, 'Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? I tell you, he will see that they get justice, and quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?"" Is prayer a magic spell for everything you need? Please explain.

(answer) No, prayer is a part of the lifestyle when following King Jesus. A magic spell does what I would like; here it is about His will.



8a. (Please read the bold text of this question aloud.)

The parable of the widows names three properties of continuous prayer. The team asking the question will demonstrate using pantomime what the widow did or could have done. The other team will try and guess these three points.

(answer) The other team must name all three of these:

- 1. Speaking (pleading).
- 2. Keep coming (bothering).
- 3. Hitting (attacking).

#### 9a. In Matthew 6:5-8, King Jesus names three requirements that a prayer must meet:

"And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him."

Which three requirements that a prayer must meet, does King Jesus name here? (answer) The other team must name all three of these points:

- 1. Pray behind closed doors (alone or with others, such as during a house feast).
- 2. Pray concisely (without repetitions, not babbling on).
- 3. Pray with the knowledge that God the Father already knows what you pray for.





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10a. Our relationship with God the Father shouldn't always be the same; it's about having a lively relationship. 1 Timothy 2:1-4 names four types of prayer:

I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people—for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and guiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.

#### Name the four types of prayer that this Bible passage mentions.

(answer) The other team must name all four points:

- 1. Petitions (supplications, pleadings).
- 2. Prayers.
- 3. Intercession.
- 4. Thanksgiving.

#### 11a. What's the difference between petitions and prayers?

(answer) When petitioning, you turn to God the Father to plead for the people that are closest to your heart. Prayers are about all people and other topics.

#### 12a. Romans 8:26 says:

In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless

The Holy Spirit assists us in praying well. What does the Holy Spirit do? (answer) The Holy Spirit works at your heart and your desires to often be in prayer.

Closing question (both teams): Now take some time for corporate prayer.







## 1b. Mohammedans shout out loud to Allah. Christians pray in silence. Jews whisper. Who has the most intimate relationship? Please explain.

(answer) The Jews. When you whisper, you are very close to one another; when you shout, you stand far apart; if you are silent, it is not known what you are saying.



2b. (Please read the bold text of this question aloud.)

In Matthew 6:9-13 (KJV), King Jesus teaches His followers this prayer:

Our Father which art in heaven,

Hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come,

Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:

For thine is the kingdom,

and the power,

and the glory,

for ever.

Amen.

Someone from the team asking the question will lip read to whom you should pray. The other team will try and guess this.

(answer) Abba Father.

3b. Can you make your prayers more effective through, for example: humming, meditation, getting in the mood, positive thinking, lighting a candle, or using holy water? Please explain.

(answer) No, you should pray in the Name of King Jesus.

4b. The following three Bible verses state a total of three requirements for prayers to be answered, and for you to receive.

In Mark 11:24, King Jesus says: "Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours."

1 John 3:22 says: " And receive from him anything we ask, because we keep his commands and do what pleases him."

1 John 5:14 says: "This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us."

According to these Bible verses, which three requirements should a prayer meet, before you can receive?

(answer) The other team must name all three points:

- 1. We must believe (not doubt) that we receive what we ask for in prayer.
- 2. We must keep the commands of God the Father.
- 3. We must pray according to the will of God the Father.







#### 5b. James 5:13–16 names six aspects of a life of prayer:

Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise. Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

Name all six of the aspects of a life of prayer from this Bible passage.

(answer) The other team must name all six points:

- 1. Praying when in trouble (suffering).
- 2. Sing songs of praise when happy (merry).
- 3. Pray in faith and anointing by elders, to save and heal the sick.
- 4. Forgive sins.
- 5. Confess sins and pray for each other, for well-being.
- 6. Powerful prayers of a righteous person is very effective.

6b. When we are in difficult circumstances, we often feel the need to pray. We actually should be praying in such a way that we rise above the circumstances, like 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 says: "Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." That means you also pray when everything is well. Which for of prayer from this Bible verse is related to

(answer) Give thanks (sing songs of praise, worship) in all circumstances.



7b. (Please read the bold text of this question aloud.)

Since prayer is a lifestyle, you can pray together, but also alone; you can pray whispering, and also very loud; you can pray for something for an extensive period of time, or occasionally. There aren't any clear boundaries in this respect. Someone from the team asking the question will lip read how the Bible concludes this attitude. The other team will try and guess this.

(answer) Pray continually.

#### 8b. Name one reason why we sometimes have to wait a long time for an answer from God the Father.

(answer) There are several possible answers, such as:

- 1. God the Father is sovereign, so He does His deeds on His time and in His way.
- 2. God the Father knows the right time and occasion, and that needs to be coordinated.
- 3. This way, you learn to exercise patience and endurance.
- 4. Due to spiritual warfare.

(comment) Biblical examples with these answers are among others:

- 1. 1 Samuel 15:29 calls Him the Unchangeable One of Israel (other translations say Strength, Glory, or Eternal One), and in Revelation 1:8, He calls Himself the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.
- 2. Acts 1:7 says that God the Father has set the times and seasons by His own authority.
- 3. Elijah had to pray seven times for rain, before a cloud the size of a fist rose above the
- 4. Daniel didn't receive an immediate response, because the archangel Michael was in spiritual warfare for three weeks and won, before he could answer Daniel.



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9b. Our Father is at the same time the highest King and Judge over all. Still, we basically may come to Him boldly and ask Him for everything. There is just one circumstance in which we can't. What should be preventing you?

(answer) If your heart condemns you.

(comment) This refers to your conscience. 1 John 3:21 says: "Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God."

# 10b. Thanksgiving is among others composed of worship and (songs of) praise. What is the difference between worship and (songs of) praise?

(answer) When worshiping, you respectfully exalt God the Father from within your heart to His heart. With praise, you make known the great deeds of God the Father amidst the Church, aimed outward.

(comment) In the tabernacle, worship took place in the holy lace, and praise in the courts.

### 11b. What is the difference between prayer and intercession?

(answer) Whether it is prayer or intercession depends on who has set the topic. With intercession, you receive prayer topics from the Holy Spirit. With prayer and other ways of praying, you decide as human what you pray for.

(comment) In Ezekiel 22:30, you see how God the Father searches for people to pray for His agenda items (engage in intercessory prayer).

## 12b. What requirements should a life of prayer meet?

(answer) In addition to the answers to question 10a, it is also good for you to write down specific times your prayers have been answered in a prayer- or thanksgiving booklet, so you can thank God the Father even better for it. Long-term prayer topics can also frequently receive new attention this way. Let your life of prayer be fervent and intimate, and above all focused on God the Father.

Closing question (both teams): Now take some time for corporate prayer.