

“Do You Know Who You Are Talking To?”
“Seeking God” — Part 3
Selected verses

*“We tend by a secret law of the soul to
move toward our mental image of God.”*
A.W. Tozer, *The Knowledge of the Holy*

Until you know who you are talking to, you don't know...

- How to address them properly
- What to talk about

***Your understanding of what God is really like shapes
everything else in your life, including how you pray!***

1. God exists.

*And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to
him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek
him.*
Hebrews 11:6

Key: If we don't believe God exists, we are not going to pray.

2. Nothing is impossible with God.

*"How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?" The angel
answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High
will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God...For
nothing is impossible with God." "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May it
be to me as you have said." Then the angel left her.*
Luke 1:34-38

*Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but not with God; all
things are possible with God."*
Mark 10:27

Key: If we don't believe God can make a difference, we are not going to pray to Him.

3. Our God is a good God.

*For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues
through all generations.*
Psalm 100:5

*For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and
not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call upon me
and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me
when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you," declares the Lord...*
Jeremiah 29:11-14

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. Romans 8:28

Don't be deceived, my dear brothers. Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. James 1:16-17

Everything God does in my life, He does for my good.

Key: If we don't believe God is good, we are not going to pray.

4. God always gives me what I need, not what I deserve.

He does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us. Psalm 103:10-12

Important note: One of our greatest fears is rejection. We do everything possible to avoid it. But because God is good, He will never reject you.

Though my father and mother forsake me, the Lord will receive me. Psalm 27:10

And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. Joel 2, Acts 2, and Romans 10:13

Key: When we believe that God gives us what we need and not what we deserve, we are much more likely to pray.

5. God does not say yes to every request.

"Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!" Luke 11:11-13

Key: When we believe that God will give us what is best for us, we are much more likely to pray.

Everything God does is for your good!

“Seeking God”
Personal and Small Group Study

Read: Acts 12:5-16

1. What did the church believe and not believe as they prayed for Peter while in prison? How are we like these believers today?

2. Do you believe that God is both all-powerful and all-good? How does that change the way you pray?

3. Why do many people struggle with the concept of God's goodness and the truth that God does not give us what we deserve or always give us what we want?

Read: Psalm 23:1-6

4. Do you feel confident to say what the psalmist said in verse 6?

“Until you are absolutely convinced that God is always good to you, your prayers will be powerless, passionless, and pointless.”

5. If God answered the prayers you've been praying, would it change anyone else's world but your own?

6. Why is prayer so crucial as a church seeks God's direction? Do you believe God has good for Grace Church? Take time to pray for Grace Church right now.