

PRAYER BULLETIN #139, 28AUG2021

THREE 'A'S IN PRAYER

*"This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us – whatever we ask – we know that we have what we asked of him
1 John 5:14-15*

REFLECTION

Are you an 'A' student when it comes to prayer? This passage highlights three 'A's for us to note.

1. Approach with confidence. We can come before God in prayer with full assurance. Matthew 7:7-11 reminds us that even weak and fallible earthly fathers give good gifts to their children. How much more then, will our good and perfect heavenly Father give good gifts when we ask him. What problems have you been trying to solve on your own? Instead, why not approach God, bring them to him, and listen to what he has to say about them?

2. Ask anything. Do you feel like there are some things you can't talk to God about? Well, God already knows everything! And so we don't need to hide from God. What he desires is for us to turn to him for all our needs, to speak to him about all we think and feel. And as we open our hearts fully to him, he will respond. He will shape our hearts, minds, and lives to become more like Christ. So, you can approach God without fear to ask anything – for there is no need or request that's too big or too small for God!

3. According to his will. It's not about the words we use. There are no magic phrases or special formulae to use in prayer. Rather, we simply need to pray according to God's will. So, when you come in prayer, would you ask the Holy Spirit to help you pray according to God's will? Would you take time to listen for God's voice speaking in your heart, and through his Word?

Be assured of this: when we approach God in confidence, asking anything according to his will, he will hear us! This is an 'A' approach to prayer!

PRAYER

Thank you, heavenly Father, that you hear us when we ask anything according to your will. Teach us to listen attentively as you speak through your Word and your Spirit. We approach you in grateful confidence, through your Son Jesus Christ. Amen.

SUPPLICATION

- Have you read God's word today? If you haven't, take the time to read and reflect on the chapter of 1 Jn.5. Then come to the Lord in prayer! How has the reading of God's word touched you in your understanding, spirit and faith in God?
- Are there issues or problems that you have been trying to settle by your own ability or strength? Would you instead lift them to God in prayer? Take the time to be still and listen to Him. You may also that the Lord help you to be attentive to His leading. Ask God to display his goodness and glory in these situations. Ask Him how He would want you to join in.
- Are there matters you feel are too 'ordinary', too 'secular', or just too 'minor' to pray about? Nothing is too small to bring before our Father. Would you bring these before God? Ask Him to show you His will in these matters.
- Pray for your family, your small group, your colleagues or classmates. As the Lord brings various individuals to your mind, ask Him to show you how to pray for them according to His will.

*Even now, some Christians have
trouble listening to God.
Many of us prefer to speak.
What reversal of power might occur
if we turned the process around,
naming our concerns and
asking God to tell us what to do about them?
'Speak Lord, for you servants are listening'.
Rev Barbara Brown Taylor*

If you need any prayer or pastoral care support, kindly contact the pastoral care team via:

Email: wecare@brmc.org.sg

Contact: 6592 4011 or 6592 4012