

Title: Yield in Prayer

February 16, 2020

Text: Romans 12:1

Call to Worship: Psalm 84

Scripture Reading: Romans 12:1-21

Theme: You must Yield to God in Prayer.

Introduction:

Two helpful resources you should read: *A Call to Prayer* by J. C. Ryle and *A Guide to Prayer* by Isaac Watts.¹

In the past three weeks we looked at Praising God in Prayer, Repenting of Sin in Prayer, and Asking God in Prayer. Today: You Must Yield to God in Prayer.

I. Yielding Means Proclaiming Your Commitment

A. Proclaim Your Trust in Christ

Proverbs 3:5. See also Psalm 37:3; 62:8; 115:9–11; Isaiah 26:4
Trusting means following.

B. Proclaim Your Love for Christ

1. Love implies a desire to commune.

Psalm 63:1–4
Love implies a desire to commune.

2. Love implies a desire to obey.

John 14:15. See also John 14:21, 23–24; 1 John 2:5; 3:24; 5:1–3
Loving means obeying, even when you don't understand or feel like it.

C. Proclaim Your Desire to Be Like Christ

2 Peter 3:18; 1:5; Ephesians 4:15; Colossians 1:10; 2:19; 1 Peter 2:2
Desiring to be like Christ means changing.

“...though I am not what I ought to be, nor what I wish to be, nor what I hope to be, I can truly say, I am not what I once was; a slave to sin and Satan; and I can heartily join with the apostle, and acknowledge, "By the grace of God I am what I am." -John Newton

II. Yielding Means Presenting Yourself Completely

A. Present all you have to the Lord for His use

1. Family

Psalm 127:3–5

2. Friends

Luke 16:9

3. Finances

Luke 16:9; 2 Corinthians 9:7

4. Furniture

Hebrews 13:16

5. Future

James 4:13–15

¹Much of this lesson was taken from Isaac Watts' *A Guide to Prayer*, and Pearson Johnson's class notes from "Pastoral Leadership," Detroit Baptist Theological Seminary, Spring 2008.)

B. **Present yourself to the Lord for His use**

Romans 12:1; Mark 12:30

1. **Heart**
2. **Soul**
3. **Mind**
4. **Strength**

III. **Yielding Means Pursuing God's Control**

A. **Pursue the Shepherd's Guidance**

Psalm 23; Psalm 119:105; Proverbs 6:23

B. **Pursue the Spirit's Governing**

1. **Conviction**

John 16:13; 1 Thessalonians 1:5; 1 Corinthians 2:12–13

2. **Control**

Ephesians 5:18; Galatians 5:13–26

3. **Conformity**

Romans 8:26–30; 2 Corinthians 3:18

Conclusion:

If you are driving and you come to a yield sign, you must give up the right of way. If you are going somewhere, does this annoy you? Who likes to give up the right of way? Yielding in Prayer Means Proclaiming Your Commitment to God, Presenting Yourself Completely to God and Pursuing God's Control in your life. **You Must Yield to God in Prayer.**

Final thoughts:

Prepare your thoughts for prayer (pp.42-48 in Watts)

1. The solemnity and importance of prayer teach us that we must perform it well.
2. The heart must be prepared for prayer.
3. One cannot learn to pray without premeditation.
4. Due preparation for prayer is the way to serve God with our best.

Prepare a premeditation prayer journal

1. Get a notebook to use
2. Write down Scripture you read and place it within the categories of PRAY.
3. Form your personal devotional prayers using the Scriptures that you have found.