

ST PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

Session 5

**Why and
How do I**

Pray



WELCOME TO ALPHA – A SERIES OF INTERACTIVE SESSIONS TO DISCUSS LIFE AND THE CHRISTIAN FAITH IN AN INFORMAL, FUN AND FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT.

After each talk, there is a time for discussion with the people in your pew, during which you can ask questions, delve into different issues and find out what others think.

This is your guide, so use it however you like. Write, scribble, note, jot, or doodle. Whatever helps.

After each discussion there will be a short time of worship and prayer during which you are invited to sing and pray along with the rest of the congregation, or if you prefer simply listen and observe.

486 Kennebecasis River Road, Hampton, NB E5N 6L3

Priest: Rev. David Turner (506) 645-1853

(506) 832-3375

stpauls-hampton@outlook.com www.stpaulshampton.ca

1. WHAT IS CHRISTIAN PRAYER?

Prayer is the most important activity of our lives.

“For through [Jesus] we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.”
(Ephesians 2:18)

- **To the Father**
 - “... to your father” (Matthew 6:6)
 - “... in heaven” (v.9)
- **Through the Son**
 - “I have called you friends” (John 15:15)
- **By the Spirit**
 - “... the Spirit helps us” (Romans 8:26)

2. WHY PRAY?

- Develops a relationship with God
- Rewards of prayer (Matthew 6:6)
 - Presence of God
 - Peace (Philippians 4:6–7)
 - Perspective
 - Power
- Results of prayer (Matthew 7:7–11)

**“When I pray,
coincidences happen,
and when I don’t,
they don’t.”**

**WILLIAM TEMPLE,
THE FORMER
ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY**

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

3. DOES GOD ALWAYS ANSWER PRAYER?

Yes—you receive what you prayed for, sometimes immediately.

No—sometimes an obvious reason why not; other times we may not understand straight away why the answer is no.

Wait—for the right timing.

4. HOW DO WE PRAY?

- **Thank you**—count your blessings, not your problems.
- **Sorry**—confess your sins (John 13:6–10).
- **Please**—“Give us today our daily bread.” (Matthew 6:11):
ask for any thing you need.

5. WHEN SHOULD WE PRAY?

- **Anywhere, anytime**
 - (Ephesians 6:18)
- **Alone (Matthew 6:6)**
 - Regular pattern
 - Best part of the day (Mark 1:35)
- **With others**
 - There’s power in praying together
 - “Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven.” (Matthew 18:19)

Three simple tips:

- Keep it real
- Keep it simple
- Keep it going

RECOMMENDED READING

God on Mute

Pete Greig

Too Busy Not to Pray

Bill Hybels

What About Other Religions?

Nicky Gumbel

We pray and give thanks for

International

- Our Companion Diocese of Ho - Bishop Matthias

Mission of the Month

- St Paul's VBS

Diocese

- Our Bishop David and his wife Janet
- Retired Bishops Harold, George, William and Claude.

Government

- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau
- Premier Brian Gallant
- Mayor Ken Chorley and the town council

Deanery

- Parish of Sussex – Rev. Canon Thomas Stradwick
- Retired Clergy - Rev. Dr. Lee Whitney

Parish

- Rev. David & Family
- Rev. Deacon Deborah Cochran & Family

The sick and the shut-ins

Raymond Bates, Don Buchanan, Bobbi-Jo Corner, Loretta Derrah, Barb Glauser, Rick Hatchette, Dawn Lent, Paul Robichaud, Lloyd Ryder, Sue Scribner, Erika Wisted

August 7	10:00 am Morning Prayer & Praise <i>Alpha 6 – Why and how should I read the bible?</i>
Music Leader	Glenna Geer
Layreader	Heather Miller
Reader	Shirley Stanley Psalm 119: 97-105
Greeters	Scott Family
A/V	Kevin Scott
Sunday School	Betty K / Shelby Scott
Chancel	Estelle Fowler
Counters	Joanne DiProse / Paul Robichaud