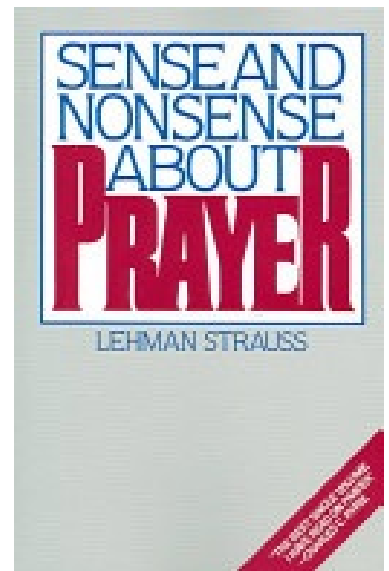


Training For Battle in the 21st Century

*New Generation Theological Seminary
New Generation Bible College
New Generation Institute of Biblical Studies*

Course Study for **Theology 211** – Prayer

Text: "Sense and Nonsense About Prayer" by Lehman Strauss. Published by Moody Publishers, 1974. [\$26.10]



1. Why did you take this course on prayer?
2. The biblical concept of prayer is lacking in many churches today. Give two reasons why.

CHAPTER ONE

3. What is wrong with most of our prayers?
4. When it comes to praying we have an "infirmity", what does the Apostle Paul mean by that?

CHAPTER TWO

5. Why does it not make sense to pray if one has unconfessed sin in their life?
6. Give four examples from Scripture of what happens when we pray with sin in our heart.
7. If I am earnest and sincere with my prayers, yet have unconfessed sin, God will not hear me. Why?
8. What must I do to get rid of my unconfessed sin?
9. Read Psalm 51, spending at least 10 minutes meditating on what you have read. What did God say to you as you meditated on this Psalm?
10. What effect has the study of chapter 2 had on your prayer life and why?

CHAPTER THREE

11. Can we pray with the right idea but a wrong motive? Why?
12. How do you feel about Dr. Strauss's statement on page 27 where he states "that many of us hide behind Matthew 7:7"?
13. What does it mean to pray unselfishly?
14. Why does it make sense to examine our motives before we ask anything from God?
15. When we pray in pretense, Christ pronounced a woe upon us. What is that woe?

CHAPTER FOUR

16. Which is more important in praying, quality or quantity? Why?
17. Why must one pray in the Spirit?

18. List four (4) truths to remember if we are to pray in the Spirit.
19. What does it mean to be filled with the Holy Spirit?
20. After studying this chapter on the Holy Spirit and prayer, how do you feel about your prayer life?

CHAPTER FIVE

21. Why does it not make sense to pray if we do not pray in Jesus name?
22. Who are the people who have a right to pray? Who does not have a right to pray?
23. What is meant by praying in the name of Christ?
24. Why is it important that I accept the teachings of the Bible concerning Christ blood to approach God in prayer?
25. The name of Jesus is the authority that opens the door into God's presence and the name that gives me the right to be heard. Why?

CHAPTER SIX

26. Why does it not make sense to pray without faith?
27. What made the prayer life of George Muller different?
28. I have trusted Christ as my Savior. I Love Him. My faith is in Him. When I pray however nothing happens. Why? (Please keep your remarks limited to this chapter)
29. Define "FAITH".
30. After a careful study of prayer and faith, how does your prayer life seem now? Why?

CHAPTER SEVEN

31. A Christian lady has for 37 years had an unforgiving spirit toward another Sister in Christ. Yet, during this time she has taught a Sunday School class, Vacation Bible School, seldom missed a service, and given faithfully of her meager resources to the Lord's work. Does God hear her when she prays? Why?
32. What did Christ mean by Matthew 6: 14-15?
33. What is it that every Christian owes to every other Christian?

34. Explain "even as" as found in Ephesians 4:32.

35. I have been wronged. What am I to do? What part of my responsibility belongs to God?

CHAPTER EIGHT

36. How do you feel about the statement: "And in no area of the Christians life is the will of God more significant than in his prayers"? Why?

37. How can I pray according to the will of God?

Ans. Only the Christian whose will is surrendered to God can know His will. One of the purposes of prayer is to discover God's will in order that we might do it. There are Christians who shrink from making a full surrender to God because they are afraid God will ask them to do what they do not want to do.

38. What is the greatest prayer a believer can pray?

Ans. Those Christians know nothing of the meaning of prayer. The greatest prayer anyone can pray is, "They will be done."

39. Where do I go to find the will of God?

40. Explain the following statement: "The Christian who knows little about the Bible, knows little about prayer."

CHAPTER NINE

41. Why is thanksgiving in our prayer life so important?

42. When I pray, what two things should be found in my approach?

43. How do thanks and praise differ?

44. Read Psalm 100. Meditate upon what you have read for at least 10 minutes. What effect did it have on your prayer life?

45. Thanksgiving and Praise are important if we are to have what kind of a prayer life?

CHAPTER TEN

46. What does it mean to "abide" as found in John 15:7?

47. What is the difference in union and communion?

48. Christ gave two (2) conditions for abiding. What are they?
49. Explain what is meant by each?
50. What is the result of not abiding in Christ?
51. To be more spiritual, what must you do?

CHAPTER ELEVEN

52. Why does it not make sense for a stingy Christian to ask anything of God?
53. Read Luke 6:38. How does its content effect your prayer life?
54. How do we show that we love our brother?
55. Philippians 4:19 says that God will supply all my needs. What is meant by that?
56. How has the study of this chapter affected your giving and your prayer life?

CHAPTER TWELVE

57. In ones prayer life, why is a harmonious marital relationship important?
58. From a Biblical perspective, what is the husband's role in the home and why?
59. From a Biblical perspective, what is the wife's role in the home and why?
60. What does the Bible mean when it states that a man is to live with his wife, "according to knowledge"?
61. Carefully study 1 Corinthians 13. List the 15 descriptions of love. Describe their relationship to your prayer life.

CHAPTER THIRTEEN

62. List four reasons for fasting.
63. Why is fasting important in your prayer life?
64. When is fasting wrong?
65. Do you feel that fasting is for Christians today? Defend your position.

CHAPTER FOURTEEN

66. Which is the Lord's Prayer: Luke 11: 1-4 and Matthew 6: 9-13, or John 17. Why?
67. Is the commonly called Lord's Prayer for today's believer/church? Why?
68. List and briefly explain the three perils Jesus sounded concerning prayer.
69. The Model Prayer contains six petitions. List and briefly explain each.
70. In the Model Prayer Jesus used three important words: Father, hallowed, temptation. Define each.

CHAPTER FIFTEEN

71. List and explain the seven pictures of the prayer life of Christ.
72. As you study the seven pictures of the prayer life of Christ, what lesson did God teach you as you examined each picture and why? (Write a brief statement on each picture.)
73. Why did Christ give prayer such a high priority in His ministry? How does His priority balance out with your priority given to prayer?

CHAPTER SIXTEEN

74. Give a brief reaction to your personal feelings as you read this chapter.
75. After a careful study of this text book "Sense and Nonsense About Prayer", what has happened in your personal prayer life? Why?