

PRAYER & FELLOWSHIP

- 1) The Gospel
 - 2) Review: The Four Components of Prayer
 - a. Confession
 - b. Adoration
 - c. Thanksgiving
 - d. Supplication
 - 3) Fellowship
-

By John Williamson

PAUL'S 2ND MISSIONARY JOURNEY



Cilician Gates through the Taurus Mountains near Gulek



Cilician Gates, Southern Turkey



PHILIPPI - THE ROMAN COLONY

**ANCIENT
PHILIPPI**



PHILIPPI – A GREAT AND WEALTHY CITY



PHILIPPI – THE EGNATIAN WAY



εὐαγγέλιον (Gospel) – Definition

- 1) God's good news to humans, *good news* as proclamation
- 2) details relating to the life and ministry of Jesus, *good news of Jesus*
- 3) a book dealing with the life and teaching of Jesus, a *gospel account* that deals with the life and teaching of Jesus

ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΙΟΝ (GOSPEL) IN PHILIPPIANS

- 1) 1:5 – Paul joyfully thanks God in prayer for the Philippians, because of their participation in the gospel
- 2) 1:7 – through defense and confirmation of the gospel, the Philippians are partakers of grace with Paul
- 3) 1:12 – Paul's imprisonment has resulted in the greater progress of the gospel

ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΙΟΝ (GOSPEL) IN PHILIPPIANS

- 4) 1:16 – Paul is appointed for the defense of the gospel
- 5) 1:27a - conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ
- 6) 1:27b – living life in light of the gospel results standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel

ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΙΟΝ (GOSPEL) IN PHILIPPIANS

- 7) 2:22 – Timothy has proven worth because he served with me in the furtherance of the gospel
- 8) 4:3 - Help these women (Euodia and Syntyche) who have shared my struggle in *the cause of* the gospel
- 9) 4:15 – The Philippians have participated financially in the gospel since the first preaching of the gospel in Macedonia

1:1-2: SALUTATION

Phil 1:1, Paul and Timothy, bond-servants of Christ Jesus, To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, including the overseers and deacons:

Phil 1:2, Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

“The human family is divided into two groups: the *saints* and the *ain'ts*.”

- J. Vernon McGee

ἅγιος (Saints) - (1:1) -

- 1) as adj. pert. to being dedicated or consecrated to the service of God**
- 2) used as a pure subst. the holy (thing, person)**

1:3–11: PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Phil 1:3, I thank my God in all my remembrance of you,

Phil 1:4, always offering prayer with joy in my every prayer for you all,

Phil 1:5, in view of your participation in the gospel from the first day until now.

1:3–11: PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Phil 1:6, *For I am* confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus.

Phil 1:7, For it is only right for me to feel this way about you all, because I have you in my heart, since both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel, you all are partakers of grace with me.

1:3–11: PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Phil 1:8, For God is my witness, how I long for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus.

Phil 1:9, And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in real knowledge and all discernment,

1:3–11: PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Phil 1:10, so that you may approve the things that are excellent, in order to be sincere (*pure*) and blameless until the day of Christ

Phil 1:11, having been filled with the fruit of righteousness which *comes* through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

THE FOUR COMPONENTS OF PRAYER

The Acronym: **CATS**

- 1) Confession
- 2) Adoration
- 3) Thanksgiving
- 4) Supplication

CONFESSION – DICTIONARY.COM

- 1) acknowledgment; avowal; admission:
- 2) a formal, usually written, acknowledgment of guilt by a person accused of a crime.
- 3) Also called confession of faith. a formal profession of belief and acceptance of doctrines, as before being admitted to church membership.

CONFESSION – WHAT IS IT?

Simply put: Confession in prayer is telling God where/how you've messed up (sinned) lately.

Confession: is between you and God,
 can be done silently/privately
 needs no human intermediary
 (priest)

CONFESSION

Question: Why do we not require a human intermediary?

After all, in the Old Testament the High Priest mediated between Israel and God, especially on the Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur).

Answer: Our High Priest (Jesus) is in Heaven, not on earth and is actively involved in interceding for us to the Father every time we pray.

CONFESSION – OUR HEAVENLY PRIEST

- ✘ Heb 4:14 Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.
- ✘ Heb 4:15 For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin.
- ✘ Heb 4:16 Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

CONFESSION – WHAT IT DOES FOR US

- ✘ 1 Jn 1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
- ✘ 1 Jn 1:10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar and His word is not in us.

ADORATION – DICTIONARY.COM

- 1) The act of paying honor, as to a divine being; worship
- 2) Reverent homage
- 3) Fervent and devoted love

ADORATION – WHAT IS IT?

Simply put: In prayer, adoration is telling God how great He is, especially making reference to His characteristics/actions recorded in the Bible.

ADORATION – AN EXAMPLE FROM DANIEL

- ✘ Da 2:20 Daniel said, “Let the name of God be blessed forever and ever, For wisdom and power belong to Him.
- ✘ Da 2:21 “It is He who changes the times and the epochs; He removes kings and establishes kings; He gives wisdom to wise men and knowledge to men of understanding.
- ✘ Da 2:22 “It is He who reveals the profound and hidden things; He knows what is in the darkness, and the light dwells with Him.
- ✘ Da 2:23 “To You, O God of my fathers, I give thanks and praise, For You have given me wisdom and power; Even now You have made known to me what we requested of You, for You have made known to us the king’s matter.”

THANKSGIVING – DICTIONARY.COM

- 1) the act of giving thanks; grateful acknowledgment of benefits or favors, especially to God.
- 2) an expression of thanks, especially to God.
- 3) a public celebration in acknowledgment of divine favor or kindness.
- 4) a day set apart for giving thanks to God.

Note the use of the word being defined as part of the definition*

THANKSGIVING – WHAT IS IT?

Simply put: In prayer, thanksgiving is telling God what He's done for you.

Put another way thanksgiving is enumerating some of the reasons you have to be grateful to God.

Note: Paul's prayer of Philippians 1:3–11 is a prayer of thanksgiving.

THANKSGIVING – EXAMPLES FROM PAUL

- ✘ 1 Thess. 5:16-17 Rejoice always; pray without ceasing;
- ✘ 2 Tim. 1:3 I thank God, whom I serve with a clear conscience the way my forefathers did, as I constantly remember you in my prayers night and day,

THANKSGIVING – AN EXAMPLE FROM HANNAH

- ✘ 1 Sam. 2:1 Then Hannah prayed and said, “My heart exults in the LORD; My horn is exalted in the LORD, My mouth speaks boldly against my enemies, Because I rejoice in Your salvation.
- ✘ 1 Sam. 2:2 “There is no one holy like the LORD, Indeed, there is no one besides You, nor is there any rock like our God.”

THANKSGIVING – AN EXAMPLE FROM HANNAH

- ✘ 1 Sam. 2:3 “Boast no more so very proudly, Do not let arrogance come out of your mouth; For the LORD is a God of knowledge, and with Him actions are weighed.
- ✘ 1 Sam. 2:4 “The bows of the mighty are shattered, But the feeble gird on strength.”

THANKSGIVING – AN EXAMPLE FROM HANNAH

- ✘ 1 Sam. 2:5 “Those who were full hire themselves out for bread, But those who were hungry cease to hunger. Even the barren gives birth to seven, But she who has many children languishes.
- ✘ 1 Sam. 2:6 “The LORD kills and makes alive; He brings down to Sheol and raises up.”

THANKSGIVING – AN EXAMPLE FROM HANNAH

- ✘ 1 Sam. 2:7 “The LORD makes poor and rich; He brings low, He also exalts.
- ✘ 1 Sam. 2:8 “He raises the poor from the dust, He lifts the needy from the ash heap to make them sit with nobles, And inherit a seat of honor; For the pillars of the earth are the LORD’S, and He set the world on them.”

THANKSGIVING – AN EXAMPLE FROM HANNAH

- ✘ 1 Sam. 2:9 “He keeps the feet of His godly ones, But the wicked ones are silenced in darkness; For not by might shall a man prevail.
- ✘ 1 Sam. 2:10 “Those who contend with the LORD will be shattered; Against them He will thunder in the heavens, The LORD will judge the ends of the earth; And He will give strength to His king, And will exalt the horn of His anointed.”

SUPPLICATION – DICTIONARY.COM

- 1) An act or instance of supplicating*;
- 2) humble prayer, entreaty, or petition.

Note the use of the word being defined as part of the definition*

SUPPLICATION – WHAT IS IT?

Simply put: In prayer, supplication is asking God for something.

This is the meat of most prayers and is the major reason most people pray.

SUPPLICATION- AN EXAMPLE FROM DAVID

- ✘ Ps 31:14 But as for me, I trust in You, O LORD, I say, “You are my God.”
- ✘ Ps 31:15 My times are in Your hand; Deliver me from the hand of my enemies and from those who persecute me.
- ✘ Ps 31:16 Make Your face to shine upon Your servant; Save me in Your lovingkindness.
- ✘ Ps 31:17 Let me not be put to shame, O LORD, for I call upon You; Let the wicked be put to shame, let them be silent in Sheol.
- ✘ Ps 31:18 Let the lying lips be mute, Which speak arrogantly against the righteous with pride and contempt.

FELLOWSHIP – DICTIONARY.COM

- 1) the condition or relation of being a fellow
- 2) friendly relationship; companionship
- 3) community of interest, feeling, etc.
- 4) communion, as between members of the same church.

KOINΩNIA (FELLOWSHIP)– BDAG

- 1) close association involving mutual interests and sharing, association, communion, fellowship, close relationship
- 2) attitude of good will that manifests an interest in a close relationship, generosity, fellow-feeling, altruism
- 3) sign of fellowship, proof of brotherly unity
- 4) participation, sharing

FELLOWSHIP- 1 JOHN 1:3-7

- ✘ 1 Jn 1:3 what we have seen and heard we proclaim to you also, so that you too may have *fellowship* with us; and indeed our *fellowship* is with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ.
- ✘ 1 Jn 1:4 These things we write, so that our joy may be made complete.

FELLOWSHIP- 1 JOHN 1:3-7

- ✘ 1 Jn 1:5 This is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is Light, and in Him there is no darkness at all.
- ✘ 1 Jn 1:6 If we say that we have *fellowship* with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth;
- ✘ 1 Jn 1:7 but if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have *fellowship* with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.

TWO KINDS OF FELLOWSHIP IN 1 JOHN

- 1) Horizontal – fellowship with believers
- 2) Vertical – fellowship with God

HORIZONTAL & VERTICAL FELLOWSHIP

Question: Which type of fellowship is primary?

Answer: Fellowship with God (vertical) comes first. We can experience fellowship with believers (horizontal) through having fellowship with God.

Or, put another way, we can have horizontal fellowship with another person through both parties having vertical fellowship with God.

FELLOWSHIP & TEACHING

- ✘ Ac 2:42 They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

ACTS 2:42

Question: How many “things” are happening in Acts 2:42?

Answer: Two

- 1) The Apostles' Teaching
- 2) Fellowship

The breaking of bread (communion) and prayer are related to fellowship

FELLOWSHIP – THROUGH GIVING

- ✘ Rom. 15:26 For Macedonia and Achaia have been pleased to make a contribution[κοινωνία] for the poor among the saints in Jerusalem.

FELLOWSHIP – THROUGH JESUS

- ✘ 1 Cor. 1:9 God is faithful, through whom you were called into fellowship with His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Note: Fellowship with God (the Father) is achieved through Jesus Christ

FELLOWSHIP – WITH DEMONS

- ✘ 1 Cor. 10:20 No, but I say that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to demons and not to God; and I do not want you to become sharers [κοινωνός] in demons.

Note: Fellowship with demons is both possible and very BAD

FELLOWSHIP – LIGHT AND DARKNESS

- ✘ 2 Cor. 6:14 Do not be bound together with unbelievers; for what partnership have righteousness and lawlessness, or what fellowship has light with darkness?
- ✘ 2 Cor. 6:15 Or what harmony has Christ with Belial, or what has a believer in common with an unbeliever?
- ✘ 2 Cor. 6:16 Or what agreement has the temple of God with idols?

FELLOWSHIP – THE HOLY SPIRIT

- ✘ 2 Cor. 13:14 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

Note: Fellowship is a ministry of the Holy Spirit.

FELLOWSHIP – THE HOLY SPIRIT

- ✘ Philippians 2:1 Therefore if there is any encouragement in Christ, if there is any consolation of love, if there is any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and compassion,

Note: Fellowship is a ministry of the Holy Spirit.

FELLOWSHIP – DR. ROBERT L. DEAN, JR.

There we see that fellowship is not social life with Christians. Christian fellowship is based first on a relationship with God, based on right doctrine, and it results in right behavior. Christian fellowship, therefore, is not sitting around and having a good social time with other believers, but Christian fellowship is that which is specifically centered around the person of Christ.