

Walking with God - Prayer

What would you say is prayer?

Allow open discussion and let people say whatever they think

Let's take a look at what the Catechism says prayer is. Have someone read:

- CCC 2558
- CCC 2565

You can see the emphasis on the idea that prayer is our personal relationship with God.

There are many ways we can respond to God in prayer. Let's read what the Catechism says about forms of prayer. Have someone read:

- CCC 2699
- Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, starting at paragraph 569

Now let's look at how Jesus modeled prayer for us. Have someone read:

Jesus prayed often, let's take a look at a couple of passages to see what he did:

- Matthew 14:23
- Luke 5:15-16

Lastly, a common question is how often are we supposed to pray. Let's see what St. Paul said about prayer. Have someone read:

- 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Discussion Questions:

1. How do you pray? How often? What works for you?
2. Did anything from the passages we read stand out to you, or hit you in a special way?
3. Does prayer feel like a personal relationship with God to you as the Catechism says? How so, or if not, why do you think that is?
4. If God already knows everything, including what we're about to pray for, why do you think he wants us to still pray?
5. Looking at the two Gospel passages about Jesus praying, what commonalities do you see between those two verses?
 - *A: He would go off somewhere alone, solitude is an important aspect of personal prayer.*
6. In the verse from Thessalonians, St. Paul talks about praying "without ceasing". What does that look like in your prayer life?