# Christian Characteristics Godliness

Lenny D'Ambrosia

### 1. Define Godliness

Godliness is a way of life characterized by devotion and dedication to God recognizing His power and Holiness.

A deep sense of reverence and living a way that honors and reflects God's character.

The International Standard Bible Encyclopedia, Revised

### 1. Define Godliness

### Godliness is:

Reverence for God and a life of holiness in the world.

In the NT - The reverent awareness of God's sovereignty over every aspect of life, and the attendant determination to honor him in all one's conduct.

Godliness depends on knowing God's revealed truth. (Titus 1:1)

The godly person is committed to obeying God in the world. (John 9:31)

2. Share two verses in the Bible concerning "Godliness" and explain the verses.

#### Titus 2:11-14

- 11 For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men,
- 12 instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to <u>live sensibly</u>, <u>righteously</u> and <u>godly</u> in the present age,
- 13 looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus,
- 14 who gave Himself for us to redeem us from every lawless deed, and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds.

2. Share two verses in the Bible concerning "Godliness" and explain the verses.

### 1 Tim. 3:16

16 By common confession, great is the mystery of godliness:

He who was revealed in the flesh,

Was vindicated in the Spirit,

Seen by angels,

Proclaimed among the nations,

Believed on in the world,

Taken up in glory.

# 3. Provide an example of someone who exhibited "Godliness" in the Old Testament.

### 2 Sam. 22:29-31

- <sup>29</sup> "For You are my lamp, O Lord;
- And the Lord illumines my darkness.
- <sup>30</sup> "For by You I can run upon a troop;
- By my God I can leap over a wall.
- <sup>31</sup> "As for God, His way is blameless;
- The word of the Lord is tested;
- He is a shield to all who take refuge in Him.

- 3. Provide an example of someone who exhibited "Godliness" in the Old Testament.
- David displays Godliness with his life.
- 1. A humble heart sees God.
- 2. A humble heart accepts God's plan.
- 3. A humble heart will be exalted.
- 4. A humble heart receives God's forgiveness.

- 4. Provide an example of someone who exhibited "Godliness" in the New Testament.
- 2 Cor. 1:12
- 12 For our proud confidence is this: the testimony of our conscience, that in holiness and godly sincerity, not in fleshly wisdom but in the grace of God, we have conducted ourselves in the world, and especially toward you.
- 1 Tim. 2:2
- 2 for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity.

- 5. How do Christians reflect a Christ-Like attitude through "Godliness"?
- Jesus demonstrated a reverence for and a deep, active relationship with God.

### Christians should emulate Jesus' attitude by:

- 1. Being humble, submissive and obedient to God's Will.
- 2. Love God's people.
- 3. Actively pursue holiness.

- 6. How do you grow in "Godliness" and seek opportunities to demonstrate "Godliness" to others?
- A. Godliness represents a commitment to following God, being selfless and obedient, and putting away old ways of life.
- B. It's about striving to be like God in our actions, desiring to be like Him in character, conduct and attitude.
- C. Godliness is a way of life that involves diligent pursuit of God, rigorous training, and growing discipline. This includes spending time in God's Word, prayer, fellowship, and worship.

- 6. How do you grow in "Godliness" and seek opportunities to demonstrate "Godliness" to others?
- 1. Live a life reflecting Christ's character:
- a. Be an example: Strive to be a positive example in your words, actions, and attitudes, demonstrating the qualities of the Holy Spirit.
- b. Be humble: Practice humility and avoid arrogance, recognizing that your strength comes from God, not from yourself.
- c. Be Christ-like: Strive to embody Christ's love, compassion, and sacrifice in your interactions with others.

- 6. How do you grow in "Godliness" and seek opportunities to demonstrate "Godliness" to others?
- 2. Serve Others and the Church.
- 3. Show God's Love through actions and words:
- a. Be a good listener Pay attention to others and try to understand their needs and concerns.
- **b.** Speak words of encouragement Use your words to uplift and build up others, offering words of affirmation and support.
- c. Be patient and kind Practice patience and kindness in your interactions with others, even when it's difficult.

- 6. How do you grow in "Godliness" and seek opportunities to demonstrate "Godliness" to others?
- 4. Seek God's guidance and grow in Faith:
- a. Read and study the Bible regularly.
  - b. Pray for others.
- c. Seek God's wisdom and ask God for guidance.

# Christian Characteristics Prayer

Lenny D'Ambrosia

### 1. Define Prayer

The addressing and petitioning of God.

Christian prayer is "an offering up of our desires unto God, for things agreeable to His Will, in the name of Christ, with confession of our sins, and thankful acknowledgement of His mercies".

Christian prayer is the end product of a long process of change and development in God's relation to men, as a survey of the biblical data shows.

### 1. Define Prayer

Prayer is a form of communication with God.

It involves acknowledging God's presence and expressing gratitude, seeking guidance, asking for help and seeking spiritual growth.

2. Share two verses in the Bible concerning "Prayer" and explain the verses.

### **Proverbs 15:8**

8 The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the Lord, But the prayer of the upright is His delight.

2. Share two verses in the Bible concerning "Prayer" and explain the verses.

### Matt. 14:23

23 After He had sent the crowds away, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray; and when it was evening, He was there alone.

## 3. Provide an example of someone who exhibited "Prayer" in the Old Testament.

#### Jer. 29:11-14

11 'For I know the plans that I have for you,' declares the Lord, 'plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope.

## 12 'Then you will call upon Me and come and pray to Me, and I will listen to you.

- 13 'You will seek Me and find *Me* when you search for Me with all your heart.
- 14 'I will be found by you,' declares the Lord, 'and I will restore your fortunes and will gather you from all the nations and from all the places where I have driven you,' declares the Lord, 'and I will bring you back to the place from where I sent you into exile.'

- 4. Provide an example of someone who exhibited "Prayer" in the New Testament.
- Col. 4:2-4
- 2 <u>Devote yourselves to prayer</u>, <u>keeping alert</u> in it <u>with an attitude of thanksgiving</u>;
- 3 praying at the same time for us as well, that God will open up to us a door for the word, so that we may speak forth the mystery of Christ, for which I have also been imprisoned;
- 4 that I may make it clear in the way I ought to speak.

#### Luke 22:39-46

**39** And He came out and proceeded as was His custom to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples also followed Him.

- 40 When He arrived at the place, He said to them, "Pray that you may not enter into temptation."
- 41 And He withdrew from them about a stone's throw, and He knelt down and began to pray,
- 42 saying, "Father, if You are willing, remove this cup from Me; yet not My will, but Yours be done."
- 43 Now an angel from heaven appeared to Him, strengthening Him.
- 44 And being in agony He was praying very fervently; and His sweat became like drops of blood, falling down upon the ground.
- 45 When He rose from prayer, He came to the disciples and found them sleeping from sorrow,
- 46 and said to them, "Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray that you may not enter into temptation."

Jesus is a "Man of prayer".

Prayer is a vital practice that shaped

Jesus' ministry and character.

Jesus demonstrates His deep reliance on God for strength and guidance.

To reflect a Christ-like attitude through prayer, one should approach prayer with humility, thankfulness, and an attitude of letting go of anxieties and worries, while trusting in God's power and wisdom.

Prayers should be sincere, honest, and filled with faith, seeking guidance and strength to live more like Christ in daily life.

Prayer is portrayed as a vital duty for Christians. It is a divine command, a means of communicating with God, and a way to gain spiritual enlightenment and holiness.

Consistent prayer life leads to personal change and spiritual growth.

23

### **Humility:**

Jesus taught us to pray with humility, recognizing our dependence on God and our need for His grace. Humility involves acknowledging our flaws and limitations and seeking God's forgiveness and guidance.

### Thanksgiving:

A Christ-like attitude is one of gratitude. Praying with a spirit of thankfulness acknowledges God's blessings and fosters a sense of contentment and peace, even in difficult circumstances.

#### Letting go of anxieties:

Jesus taught us to be anxious about nothing, but to bring our cares and worries to God in prayer. This involves trusting in God's power and wisdom, rather than being consumed by fear and worry.

# 5. How do Christians reflect a Christ-Like attitude through "Prayer"? Sincerity and Honesty:

True prayer is sincere and honest, reflecting our true self before God. It involves expressing our deepest needs and desires, including our struggles and shortcomings, without pretense.

### Faith:

Prayer is an act of faith, believing that God hears and answers our prayers. It involves trusting in God's character and promises, even when we don't understand His ways.

### Seeking guidance and strength:

A Christ-like attitude involves actively seeking God's guidance and strength to live a life that reflects His love and character. This can involve praying for wisdom, courage, and the Holy Spirit's power to overcome temptation and live according to God's will.

### Living out prayer:

Prayer should not be limited to formal moments of worship. It should be a way of life, shaping our thoughts, words, and actions throughout the day. We should strive to reflect the Christ-like attitudes of love, humility, and peace in all our interactions.

## 6. How do you grow in "Prayer" and seek opportunities to demonstrate "Prayer" to others?

### Growing in prayer involves several key aspects.

- 1. It's a gradual process that requires patience and practice.
- 2. Prayer is closely connected to personal spiritual growth, evolving from self-focused petitions to considering others' needs and praising God.
- 3. To deepen one's prayer life, it's important to view God as a loving Father.
- 4. It's essential to ensure prayers are genuinely directed to God, rather than being performative or aimed at impressing others.
- 5. Incorporating praise and thanksgiving into prayer is necessary.
- 6. Our prayers should ask God for increased faith.

6. How do you grow in "Prayer" and seek opportunities to demonstrate "Prayer" to others?

Praying for others can influence them positively by showing compassion, encouraging positive emotions, and potentially influencing their actions and decisions.

It can create a sense of connection and unity, as well as inspire actions that lead to positive community impact.