

# What is Prayer? How does it work?

Hebrews 4:14-16  
&  
Hebrews 10:19-23  
Tim Goodall  
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1

## A few books to help us...

- Paul Miller, *A Praying Life*
- Dallas Willard, *Hearing God*

2

## Where we're going

What prayer IS

What prayer ISN'T

How prayer works

Communion

3

## What prayer IS

A Simple definition?

'Prayer is personal  
communication with God.'

4

## What prayer IS

A Simple definition?

‘Prayer is personal communication with God.’

# MORE?

5

## What prayer IS

# MORE...

Personal communication with God whom we can know.

6

## What prayer IS

Moses

Joshua

Samuel

David

Nehemiah

# I AM WHO I AM

7

## What prayer IS

Mark 10

Matthew 18

...unless you become like a little child...

8

## What prayer IS NOT

### 1. It's not something we "do"

'Oddly enough, many people struggle to learn how to pray because they are focusing on praying, not on God. Making prayer the centre is like making *conversation* the centre of a family mealtime. In prayer, focusing on the conversation is like trying to drive while looking *at* the windshield instead of *through* it. It freezes us, making us unsure of where we go.' *Paul Miller*

9

## What prayer IS NOT

### 2. It's not a custom

But, persevere!  
Luke 18

10

## What prayer IS NOT

### 3. It's not magic

But: the finished  
work of Christ on the cross

11

## How does prayer work?

How does my relationship with God work?

1. By faith & trust in God  
Matt. 21 & Hebrews 10:19

12

## How does prayer work?

How does my relationship with God work?

2. By listening to God:

Psalm 27:14

Psalm 38:15

Psalm 130:5-6

13

## How does prayer work?

How does my relationship with God work?

3. Only because of the person & work of Jesus Christ

14

# Communion

15