## Elder Bobby Willis



## **Prayer - What is it About?**

Those who are considered "*True Christians*" are supposed to know a great deal about prayer, especially the need of it on a regular basis. I can remember my dad praying at night in the back room - you could hear each word all over the house. For all of his shortcomings, he was a praying man. Mother was a praying woman, but did so quietly as she never did anything which called attention to herself.

That being said, then what is prayer really about? It has been said, "It is the intense desire of the heart" or it is a "deep down expression of the needs of a child of God as he/she pours out their heart to the Lord of Heaven and earth for help or thanksgiving." Of course, it is vitally important as to whom we pray to. It must be the "living and true God" (I Thessalonians 1:9) - the one of which embodies God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. I John 5:8 says, "For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one." Sadly, we are living in a world that does not understand that "the Word" is Jesus Christ our Lord.

True prayer is about reverencing God in which our prayer is directed. Notice the beginning of the prayer in Matthew 6:9 or Luke 11:2, "Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name." This statement speaks volumes concerning our relationship to God. When we are able to comprehend the extent of this relationship, we then have a desire within our heart to praise and worship His Holy name and to glorify Him with all of our being.

The word "hallowed" means "to make holy, treat as holy, set apart as holy". Vessels used in Temple worship and even the Holy of Holies in the Tabernacle were considered as being hallowed things and places. There were a number of things in Jewish life which were considered "hallowed" as they were set apart for the worship of God.

To understand something of what true prayer is all about is to understand that God is "hallowed". He is worthy to be praised more so than any object or place or sacrificial instrument. Jesus Christ our Lord is worthy of our love, He is worthy of our devotion, and worthy of our worship. David speaks of this reverence in Psalm 111:9, "He sent redemption unto his people: he hath commanded his covenant for ever: holy and reverend is his name." Therefore when we pray to the Lord, we should understand it to be a reverential prayer for He is worthy, "I will call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised: so shall I be saved from mine enemies." (II Samuel 22:4, Psalm 18:3). Do you have an intense desire of your heart of thanksgiving or of the need of help? Then call upon the Lord. "Think About It!"