
“Does Anyone Really Know How to Pray??”

Cast: Penelope, Sherman, Chris

Concept: An illustration of the different ways people tend to approach God in prayer.

Enter Penelope, Sherman, Chris

Penelope:

Recite prayer quickly like a grocery list of demands.

I have so much to do today, but let's pray before I do anything. Would you guys like to pray with me. Prayer is very important if we want to get anything from God. Dear God, please help my mom not to yell so much, and my brother to quite picking on me, and my team to win this Saturday even though we missed our last two practices, and me to get an “A” on my book report, and Lauren to get a nice bike for her birthday—but not nicer than mine—and please make that old bully A.J. stop picking on me in reading and help Grandpa's big toe to feel better, and help Shadow to get over his cold. It's hard to see a cat sneeze all the time, plus he keeps sneezing in my face. Yuck! In Jesus name, Amen. Oh yeah! And please work on making Mom let me watch an extra half hour of TV. I'm missing the best shows! Amen.

Sherman:

Embellish with dramatic emphasis indicating that he thinks he is deeply spiritual for his large vocabulary. Are all of you listening? I am going to pray now—you might want to take notes. Oh most gracious omnipotent potentate, please condescend to listen to the cry of your humble servant. Oh magnificent one, Thou art from everlasting to everlasting, and Thy good will shall ever be done. I plead with Thee, that Thou mightest bestow upon me, your humble servant of servants, your glorious blessings. Our ministry needs one million dollars to carry out our latest project. I thank Thee, O Mighty One. I'm sure you'll be prompt. Oh and let me not forget to intercede in supplication for my unrighteous heathen comrade. May he bow to the propitiation made on his behalf at Calvary. Amen.

Chris:

Hello again, Father! I just wanted to thank You so much for helping me to make a new friend. Your story about the good Samaritan really got me thinking. You know I've been scared of Juanita because she comes from a different country and says things differently. But I remembered what You said, and when she needed a partner for her book report I asked You for the courage to volunteer. You sure came through! You helped me to not be such a scaredy cat, and I found out that even though we're different we have a lot in common. You are awesome! Lord, how can I be a good friend to Juanita? Hmmm. I had thought about asking Juanita if she'd like to come to our Bible study. But I'm not sure what Juanita will think of me. I'm not sure I want to do that. I feel really weird. Please help me to think all this through and do what you want me to do. I'm so glad I can talk to you about everything.

Sherman:

Penelope, do you think God exists to give you only the things you want? You are so demanding when you pray.

Penelope:

Well, Sherman, you're one to talk. You think you can impress God and everyone who is listening with your big, fancy words.

Penelope and Sherman turn and look at Chris

Penelope:

Chris, it sounded like you were talking to your best friend.

Sherman:

Yea, it was as though you were talking to your best friend, right there with you. I wish I could talk to God that way.

Chris: You can. God is my best friend and I love to talk to Him about everything. It's so amazing, the more I talk to Him and read what He says in His word, the better I get to know Him and the more I want to talk to Him and ask for what He wants to give me.

Sherman looks down at his wrist

Sherman: Oh my gosh! Do you know what time it is? Our soccer game started 10 minutes ago! Enough of my impressive words and your ridiculous demanding, Penelope. Let's get going!

Exit