

Prayer That Pleases God

Look Bad, Taste Good

List some great tasting foods that look unappealing. If they looked bad, why did you taste them?

Think Like Jesus

- Who are the “good” people according to our societal standards today?
- By God’s standards, who is good (**Rom 3:10** and **Rom 3:23**)?
- How can a prayer that begins with, “God, I thank You” become unacceptable to God (**Luke 18:11-12**)?
- What type of prayer pleases God?
 - ▶ **Humble** (**Luke 18:13** and **Jas 4:6**): What does it look like to pray with humility? How can reading God’s Word keep you humble (**1Pet 5:5-6**)?
 - ▶ **Honoring** (**Luke 18:14** and **Psa 95:1-7**): In what way can your prayers honor God?
 - ▶ **Heartfelt** (**Luke 18:13** and **Col 4:12**): When do your prayers tend to be most heartfelt? What can you do to make your prayers more heartfelt? What can you do to make your prayers more than a shopping list?

Dig a Little Deeper: ACTS Model of Prayer

Prayer is conversing with God. When your thoughts are a jumble, it may help to organize them using a model. That can make it easier to remember key components for a good conversation with God. The ACTS Model is one example.

<i>ACTS</i>		<i>Scripture</i>
Adoration	Begin your conversation by praising God for who He is.	Psa 48:1, Psa 63:2-4, Psa 68:35
Confession	Express your sorrow for anything you have said, thought, or done that is not pleasing to Him. Ask Him to help you avoid them in the future.	1John 1:9 Psa 103:1-5
Thanksgiving	Express gratitude for what He is doing in your life and the lives of others.	1The 5:18 Psa 69.30 Psa 118
Supplication	Request God’s help for yourself and others.	Php 4:6-7, Eph 6:18, Psa 4:1, Psa 5:8

Application Exercise: Pray with the ACTS Model

For the next seven days, use the ACTS Model to pray.

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