



Prayer

Growing Spiritually

Instrument for our spiritual education

Learning about the Bahá'í Faith

Bahá'í Class – Prayer 2

Prayer

When a person becomes a Bahá'í, actually what takes place is that the seed of the spirit starts to grow in the human soul. This seed must be watered by the outpourings of the Holy Spirit. These gifts of the spirit are received through prayer, meditation, study of the Holy Utterances and service to the Cause of God.

(From a letter dated 6 October 1954 written on behalf of Shoghi Effendi to an individual believer)

Prayer

The fact of the matter is that service in the Cause is like the plough which ploughs the physical soil when seeds are sown. It is necessary that the soil be ploughed up, so that it can be enriched, and thus cause a stronger growth of the seed.

(From a letter dated 6 October 1954 written on behalf of Shoghi Effendi to an individual believer)

Prayer

In exactly the same way the evolution of the spirit takes place through ploughing up the soil of the heart so that it is a constant reflection of the Holy Spirit. In this way the human spirit grows and develops by leaps and bounds.

(From a letter dated 6 October 1954 written on behalf of Shoghi Effendi to an individual believer)

Prayer

The power of God can entirely transmute our characters and make of us beings entirely unlike our previous selves. Through prayer and supplication, obedience to the divine laws Bahá'u'lláh has revealed, and ever-increasing service to His Faith, we can change ourselves.

(From a letter dated 22 November 1941 written on behalf of Shoghi Effendi to an individual believer)



Prayer - Vanuatu

Prayer

...the core of religious faith is that mystic feeling that unites man with God. This state of spiritual communion can be brought about and maintained by means of meditation and prayer. And this is the reason why Bahá'u'lláh has so much stressed the importance of worship.

(From a letter dated 8 December 1935 written on behalf of Shoghi Effendi to an individual believer)

Prayer

It is not sufficient for a believer to merely accept and observe the teachings. He should, in addition, cultivate the sense of spirituality, which he can acquire chiefly by the means of prayer.

(From a letter dated 8 December 1935 written on behalf of Shoghi Effendi to an individual believer)

Prayer

The Bahá'í Faith, like all other Divine religions, is thus fundamentally mystic in character. Its chief goal is the development of the individual and society, through the acquisition of spiritual virtues and powers. It is the soul of man that has first to be fed. And this spiritual nourishment prayer can best provide.

(From a letter dated 8 December 1935 written on behalf of Shoghi Effendi to an individual believer)

Prayer

Laws and institutions, as viewed by Bahá'u'lláh, can become really effective only when our inner spiritual life has been perfected and transformed. Otherwise religion will degenerate into a mere organization, and become a dead thing.

(From a letter dated 8 December 1935 written on behalf of Shoghi Effendi to an individual believer)

Prayer

The believers, particularly the young ones, should therefore fully realize the necessity of praying. For prayer is absolutely indispensable to their inner spiritual development, and this, already stated, is the very foundation and purpose of the Religion of God.

(From a letter dated 8 December 1935 written on behalf of Shoghi Effendi to an individual believer)



Prayer - Netherlands

Prayer

Prayer is the essential spiritual conversation of the soul with its Maker, direct and without intermediation.

(The Universal House of Justice, from a letter dated 18 December 2014 to the Bahá'ís in Iran)

Prayer

It is the spiritual food that sustains the life of the spirit.

(The Universal House of Justice, from a letter dated 18 December 2014 to the Bahá'ís in Iran)

Prayer

Like the morning's dew, it brings freshness to the heart and cleanses it, purifying it from attachments of the insistent self.

(The Universal House of Justice, from a letter dated 18 December 2014 to the Bahá'ís in Iran)

Prayer

It is a fire that burns away the veils and a light that leads to the ocean of reunion with the Almighty.

(The Universal House of Justice, from a letter dated 18 December 2014 to the Bahá'ís in Iran)

Prayer

On its wings does the soul soar in the heavens of God and draw closer to the divine reality.

(The Universal House of Justice, from a letter dated 18 December 2014 to the Bahá'ís in Iran)

Prayer

Upon its quality depends the development of the limitless capacities of the soul and the attraction of the bounties of God, but the prolongation of prayer is not desirable.

(The Universal House of Justice, from a letter dated 18 December 2014 to the Bahá'ís in Iran)

Prayer for Teaching

O God! O God! This is a broken-winged bird and his flight is very slow—assist him so that he may fly toward the apex of prosperity and salvation, wing his way with the utmost joy and happiness throughout the illimitable space, raise his melody in Thy Supreme Name in all the regions, exhilarate the ears with this call, and brighten the eyes by beholding the signs of guidance.

(‘Abdu’l-Bahá in Bahá’í Prayers)

Prayer for Teaching

O Lord! I am single, alone and lowly. For me there is no support save Thee, no helper except Thee and no sustainer beside Thee. Confirm me in Thy service, assist me with the cohorts of Thy angels, make me victorious in the promotion of Thy Word and suffer me to speak out Thy wisdom amongst Thy creatures. Verily, Thou art the helper of the weak and the defender of the little ones, and verily Thou art the Powerful, the Mighty and the Unconstrained.

(‘Abdu’l-Bahá in Bahá’í Prayers)