

Then falling on his knees, he (Stephen) cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them!" Having said this, he fell asleep. Acts 7:60 (NAS)

## A "Knees Bent" attitude in prayer is...

### An increasing gratitude for the \_\_\_\_\_ of God's \_\_\_\_\_ offered through Jesus Christ.

But God is so rich in mercy, and he loved us so much, <sup>5</sup> that even though we were dead because of our sins, he gave us life when he raised Christ from the dead. (It is only by God's grace that you have been saved!) <sup>6</sup> For he raised us from the dead along with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ Jesus. <sup>7</sup> So God can point to us in all future ages as examples of the incredible wealth of his grace and kindness toward us, as shown in all he has done for us who are united with Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup> God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God.

Ephesians 2:4-8 (NLT)

"Love that goes upward is worship; love that goes outward is affection; love that stoops is grace." (Donald Barnhouse)

Three different times I begged the Lord to take it away. <sup>9</sup> Each time he said, "My grace is all you need. My power works best in weakness." So now I am glad to boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ can work through me. <sup>10</sup> That's why I take pleasure in my weaknesses, and in the insults, hardships, persecutions, and troubles that I suffer for Christ. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

II Corinthians 12:8-10 (NLT)

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For this reason I kneel before the Father, <sup>15</sup> from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. Ephesians 3:14-15 (NIV)

Last Sunday Recap: Praying with my "Eyes Open" means that:

- Prayer is viewed as my first response, not my last resort.
- I look for and expect God's activity in my life.
- I recognize my daily dependence upon God's provision in my life.
- I live with an increasing awareness of the spiritual battle taking place in the world.

### Knees Bent

"I have been driven many times to my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had absolutely no other place to go." Abraham Lincoln

"Satan trembles when he sees, the weakest saint upon his knees."  
William Cowper

"The one concern of the devil is to keep Christians from praying. He fears nothing from prayer-less studies, prayer-less work, and prayer-less religion. He laughs at our toil, mocks at our wisdom, but trembles when we pray."

Samuel Chadwick

Come, let us worship and bow down, Let us kneel before the LORD our Maker. <sup>7</sup>For He is our God, And we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand. Today, if you would hear His voice, Psalm 95:6-7 (NAS)

### What is the position of my heart when I pray?

The way I approach prayer is a \_\_\_\_\_  
into what I \_\_\_\_\_ about God.

## A “Knees Bent” attitude in prayer is...

**The personal expression of my absolute  
need for God to work \_\_\_\_\_ me,  
\_\_\_\_\_ me, and \_\_\_\_\_ me.**

*Jehoshaphat bowed his head with his face to the ground, and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem fell down before the LORD, worshipping the LORD.  
II Chronicles 20:18 (NAS)*

*When Solomon had finished praying this entire prayer and supplication to the LORD, he arose from before the altar of the LORD, from kneeling on his knees with his hands spread toward heaven.  
I Kings 8:54 (NAS)*

*At the time of the sacrifice, I stood up from where I had sat in mourning with my clothes torn. I fell to my knees and lifted my hands to the LORD my God. <sup>6</sup> I prayed...  
Ezra 9:5-6a (NLT)*

**For this reason I kneel before the Father. Ephesians 3:14 (NIV)**

*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, <sup>4</sup> just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him. In love <sup>5</sup> He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will, <sup>6</sup> to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. <sup>7</sup> In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace <sup>8</sup> which He lavished on us. In all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup> He made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His kind intention which He purposed in Him.  
Ephesians 1:3-9 (NAS)*

## A “Knees Bent” attitude in prayer is...

**An eagerness to \_\_\_\_\_ to God’s  
\_\_\_\_\_ and purpose.**

*Come, let us worship and bow down, Let us kneel before the LORD our Maker.  
<sup>7</sup>For He is our God, And we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand. Today, if you would hear His voice,  
Psalm 95:6-7 (NAS)*

*Now when Daniel knew that the document was signed, he entered his house (now in his roof chamber he had windows open toward Jerusalem); and he continued kneeling on his knees three times a day, praying and giving thanks before his God, as he had been doing previously.  
Daniel 6:10 (NAS)*

*And he gives grace generously. As the Scriptures say, “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.” <sup>7</sup> So humble yourselves before God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. <sup>8</sup> Come close to God, and God will come close to you. Wash your hands, you sinners; purify your hearts, for your loyalty is divided between God and the world.  
James 4:6-8 (NLT)*

*And He (Jesus) withdrew from them about a stone’s throw,  
and He knelt down and began to pray, Luke 22:41 (NAS)*

**It is an attitude of the heart that says:  
"God, whatever you \_\_\_\_\_ is what I \_\_\_\_\_."**

**“I want Thy plan, O God, for my life. May I be happy and contented whether in the homeland or on the foreign field; whether married or alone, in happiness or sorrow, health or sickness, prosperity or adversity -- I want Thy plan, O God, for my life. I want it; oh, I want it.”  
(Oswald J. Smith)**

## A “Knees Bent” attitude in prayer is...

**An intense desire to \_\_\_\_\_ the  
\_\_\_\_\_ of God advanced.**

*Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think. <sup>21</sup> Glory to him in the church and in Christ Jesus through all generations forever and ever! Amen.  
Ephesians 3:20-21 (NLT)*

*When he had said these things, he knelt down and prayed with them all.  
Acts 20:36 (NAS)*

*When our days there were ended, we left and started on our journey, while they all, with wives and children, escorted us until we were out of the city. After kneeling down on the beach and praying, we said farewell to one another.  
Acts 21:5 (NAS)*