

## Chapter 10

### Prayer

God speaks to us through His written Word. We speak to Him through prayer.

Jesus is the only link between earth and heaven. So we pray to the Father in Jesus' name. Not *to* Jesus, but *through* Jesus – to the Father. It is because we have accepted Jesus that the Father hears us.

When we pray, exactly what does that mean? What is prayer? "Prayer is the opening of the heart to God as to a friend" (*Steps to Jesus*, p. 92). And God *is* your Friend. If you need something, you can ask Him for it. If you are having trouble, you can tell Him about it. God is interested in you and in everything that happens to you. "He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all – how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things" (Romans 8:32)? If God gave us His Son, won't He give us the other blessings we need as well? (Read John 15:16.)

## Wólta'ii 10

### Sohodizin

Diyin éi Bizaad bee ak'e'ashchínígíí yee nihił halne' łeh. Nihí sodiilzingo Diyin God bich'ì' yádeiilti'.

Jesus beego nahasdzáán dóó yá'aashii bee bóhólníihii bił haz'aanii bił ahił k'é náhásdlíí'. Áko Jesus bízhi' bee aTaa' bich'ì' sozdoolził. Jesus t'áá bí bich'ì'go éi dooda; Jesus beego – aTaa' bich'ì'. Jesus joodlāago biniinaa aTaa' hwíists'áá' lá.

Diné ła' sozdilzingo, haa lá yit'ijh? Áádóó sodizin wolyéii, ha'át'íí át'é? "Sodizinígíí éi hajéi Diyin God bich'ì' aa ájł'íigo át'é, ak'is nilíinii bich'ì'gi át'éego" (*Steps to Jesus*, p. 92). T'áá aaní Diyin éi hak'is nilíí lá. T'áá ha'át'íhída bídin jíłígoda Diyin bíjókeedgo há bíghah. Ti'hojooníihgo shíí, bíni'dii Diyin bee bił hojilne' doo. Diyin éi ni dóó t'áá ałtso áníléhígíí yíneedlí. "Diyin God t'áá bí biYe' doo ánésíjıdgóó t'áá áníłtso nihá ninéidini'á, da' doósh éi t'áá bił t'áá ałtsoní t'áá jíłk'e nihaa yiiníł da doo" (Romans 8:32)? Azhá biYe' nidi niheiníłtínígíí biniinaa, doósh Diyin éi t'áá ałtsoní bídeíníikeedígíí nihaididoo'áał da? (John 15:16 yíníłta'.)

There are many blessings God wants to give us, but He waits to give them until we ask. We can have these blessings if we do ask, but not if we don't. The Bible says: "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you" (Matthew 7:7).

When you ask for something, don't give up. Tell God just what you feel you need and ask Him to give it to you. But remember that He knows more than you do. "We cannot see the future, and sometimes we ask for things that would not be a blessing. Our heavenly Father in love answers our prayers by giving us what is best for us. He gives us what we would ask for if we could see all things as they really are" (*Steps to Jesus*, p. 96).

"We are to hold to God's promises even when it seems that our prayers are not answered. At the right time we will receive the blessing we need most. But we cannot demand

Jó t'óó ahayóigo bee ak'ijidlíi danilínígíí Diyin nihaididoo'áál nít'ée', nidi shíjokeed dooleeł yinízin. Ak'idahojidlí yá'adaat'éehii yęę éi bídayíníikeedgo índa nihí dooleeł, nidi t'áadoo bídayíníikeedgóogo áko doo nihee hodooleeł da lá. Diyin Bizaad ákóní: "Da'ínóhkeed, áko deínóhkeedígíí nihaa dadoolyééł; hádaah't'í, áko hádaah-t'ínígíí bik'ídadoohkah; dáádílkał nídanołts'in, áko nihá ąą ádadoolnííł" (Matthew 7:7).

Ha'át'íhída bíníikeedgo shíí, t'áadoo t'áá' kónít'éhí. Díida, éida bídin nishłí nínízingo aTaa' bee bił hólne', dóo shaa dííléeł bidiní. Áko nidi Diyin éi nilááh át'éego bił ééhózinígíí béenílneeh. "Nihí éi la'ídi nida'ayiilzííh, dóo doo íiyisí nihíł éédahózin da biniinaa, lahda shíí t'áadoo le'é doo nihá yá'át'éhígíí bídayíníikeed łeh. ATaa' éi ayóó'ánihó'níigo biniinaa nihá yá'adaat'éhígíí t'éí nihaa yiilé. Áko Diyin nihaa yiiléii, t'áá íídáá' daniidzin doo nít'ée', t'áá bí nahalingo dahoniidzáągo t'áá altsoji' nihíł éédahózin ládáá' " (*Steps to Jesus*, p. 96).

"Diyin éi bich'í' sozdilzingo, doo shúists'áą' da jinízin shíí daats'í. Áko bíni'dii Bizaad yee ánínígíí t'ah nidi jótą' doo. Nihúists'áą' lá, áko baa hoolzhiizhgo índa aláahgo bídin daniidlínígíí nihaa doolyééł. Nidi t'áá álahji' t'áá hó jinínigi

that a prayer will be answered in just the way we desire. God does not make mistakes. He is so good that He will not keep from us anything that would help us. Do not be afraid to trust Him, even though you may not see an answer at once" (*Steps to Jesus*, p. 96).

Satan will try to keep you from praying, but pray anyway. Jesus is our Example and He spent much time in prayer – sometimes the whole night. By praying He received strength from His Father, and so can we.

It is good to pray in groups, such as the family or the church. But we should also pray alone. There are some things that need to stay just between you and God. Pray every morning and every night. At other times, like when you're working, you can also keep your heart lifted to God in

át'éego Diyin há ídoolííł, éi doodago ts'ídá bíjokeedígíí hweidoolééł jinízingo, éi doo bíighah da. Diyin God doo ákót'éego yee nihich'ì haadzíi' da. Ts'ídá t'áá altsojì hóyáá lá, áko doo iisih da; ałdó' ayóo ajooba'ígíí biniinaa yá'ádaa-t'éehii oodlání danilínígíí doo yits'aa kóyósin da. Áko Diyin éi niłdzilgo ba'íníł, azhà bíníkeedígíí t'ah doo yiniłtséeh da nidi" (*Steps to Jesus*, p. 96).

Séitan éi Diyin bich'ì' sohodizinígíí yijoolá dóo bá bohónéedzāago t'āā' nóta' doo, doo sodílzin da doo biniyé. Áko bíni'dii t'ah nidi Diyin God bich'ì' sodílzin! Jesus éi Bik'ehgo Áda'diilniiłii niłjigo nízaadgóo sodoolzin – łahda díkwí t'ée' bíighah nidi sodoolzin lá. Azhà Jesus nidi biTaa' yich'ì' sodilzingo bee bidziil nádleeh nít'ée'. Nihí ałdó' t'áá ákódadii'níł.

Ahił sodazdilzingo éi yá'át'ééh – t'ááłá'í hooghandóo álah dzizlì'go, éi doodago sodizin bá hooghandi oodlání t'áá altso álah daazlì'goda. Nidi t'áá sáhí ałdó' sozdidoolzìł. Jó ha'át'íhída diné náánałajìgo doo bídéet'i' da łeh, ni dóo niDiyin God t'éiyá. Áko t'áá sáhí sozdilzin dooleeł – abínigo dóo e'e'aahgo, t'áá ákwí jì. Áádóo shá bíighah sodizin k'ehgo Diyin God baa nitsídzíkees doo. Nitsizdéego'go sozdilzingo yá'át'ééh, nidi nijilnishgo hajéi biyi'di Diyin bił ałch'ì'

prayer. "Silent prayers rise to God like smoke from sweet incense. Satan cannot overcome a person who keeps hold of God in prayer" (*Steps to Jesus*, p. 98).

We have talked about prayer as a way of getting the things we need – help, blessings, spiritual strength. But in our prayers we should also give thanks. A large part of our prayer time should be spent thanking God for things He has already given us. This is just as important as asking for what we need. Remember too that many of the things we take for granted are really blessings from God. We don't usually ask for these things (life, sunshine, air, friends, and so on), but God would be happy if we offered thanks for them.

Notice that our last three chapters have talked about things that should be a regular part of every Christian's life. These are: (1) helping others in whatever way we can (which includes telling them about Jesus); (2) studying God's Word (as well as thinking prayerfully about it afterwards); and (3) prayer (both asking for things and giving thanks). These are

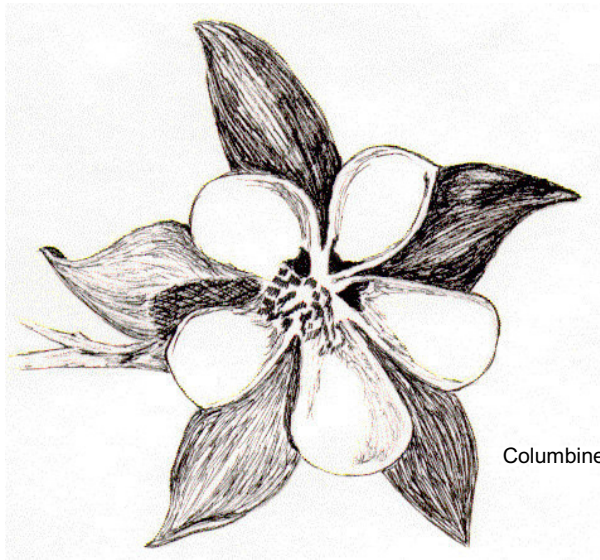
yájłti'go ałdó' t'áá áko. "Sohodizin t'áadoo iits'a'í ákódaat'ėii éi łikango halchinígi át'ėego Diyin bich'į' hahaldóóh lá. Diné ła' ákót'ėego sozdilzingo Diyin God bił łá'í dzizłį'go índa doo bik'eh hodódle' át'ėe da; Séítan éi diné ákót'ėii ts'ídá doo bee bóhólníih da doo" (*Steps to Jesus*, p. 98).

Yá'át'ėehii ał'ąa ádaat'ėii sodizinígíi bee shoizhdooł-t'eeł ha'ní – bíká'ayeed, ił hózhó, áádóó diyin k'ehgo adziil hajėyi'di hólóonii. Áko nidi ałdó' baa ahėéh jinízín doo. T'áá íídáą' Diyin nihainíłáhígíi t'óó ahayóí. Áko doo t'óó Diyin bízhdókeed da; ałdó' hainíłáhígíi baa ahėéshnízín doo. Hanaagóó dahólóonii t'áá ałtso Diyin bee béėjłniih dooleeł, azhá doo shįi t'óó ahayóídi baa nitsínízdíkos da nidi. (Ááhdishnínígíi éi iiná, adinídíín, nıłch'i, k'é hwiindzin, dóó náánała' ákódaat'ėhígíi.) Diné ła' kót'ėego baa ahėéshnízín go Diyin God bił yá'át'ėéh lá.

Táa'go wólta'ii ałkéé' yínıłta'ąa éi oodłanı ts'ídá bik'ehgo nijigháa dooleeł. Díi ááhdeıłní: (1) T'áá bízhneel'ąąįi' diné náánałahįi' bíká anįjılwo'. (Díi éi t'áá háiida Jesus bee bił hojılne'ígíi bóolta'go óolyé.) (2) Diyin Bizaad jółta'go bínáhojiił'ááh. (Ałdó' jııłta'ígíi biyi'dóó sodizin k'ehgo hazhó'ó baa nitsídzíkees.) (3) Sozdilzin. (Ha'át'ıhída Diyin bíjójkeed dóó baa ahėéshnízín.) Díi táa'go ałkéé' haz'ánígíi



not good works that earn salvation; instead they are ways in which Jesus comes close to us. If you are helping, studying, and praying regularly, then you will also be growing as a Christian. Jesus will recreate you as a new person in His likeness and your life will be a blessing – both to you and to those around you.



Columbine. State flower of Colorado.

doo naanish bił aheetł'ée da; doo éí binahjí' yisdá'iildéeh da.  
T'óó Jesus hoł yi'ashgo nizhónigo bee hwééhodoosijígíí  
ádaat'é. Ni éí áká anáníwo'go, dóó Diyin Bizaad  
bínáhooł'aahgo, dóó sonídílzı̄hgo shı̄ı̄, áko ałdó' diyin  
k'ehgo nííséeł doo. Jesus nii' hólóogo baa nił hózhóq doo – bił  
kéedahót'ínígíí ałdó' baa bił dahózhóq dooleeł!