

Prayer: Does It Make Any Difference?

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In his most powerful book since *What's So Amazing About Grace?* and *The Jesus I Never Knew*, Philip Yancey probes the very heartbeat—the most fundamental, challenging, perplexing, and deeply rewarding aspect—of our relationship with God: prayer. What is prayer? How does it work? And more importantly, does it work? In theory, prayer is the essential human act, a priceless point of contact between us and the God of the universe. In practice, prayer is often frustrating, confusing, and fraught with mystery. *Prayer: Does It Make Any Difference?* is an exploration of the mysterious intersection where God and humans meet and relate. Writing as a fellow pilgrim, Yancey explores such questions as: Is God listening? Why should God care about me? If God knows everything, what's the point of prayer? Why do answers to prayer seem so inconsistent and capricious? Why does God seem sometimes close and sometimes far away? How can I make prayer more satisfying? "I have found that the most important purpose of prayer may be to let ourselves be loved by God," says Yancey. *Prayer: Does It Make Any Difference?* encourages us to pray to God the Father who sees what lies ahead of us, knows what lies within us, and who invites us into an eternal partnership—through prayer. Also available: unabridged audio CD.

Philip Yancey serves as editor-at-large for *Christianity Today* magazine. He has written thirteen Gold Medallion Award-winning books and won two ECPA Book of the Year awards for *What's So Amazing About Grace?* and *The Jesus I Never Knew*. Four of his books have sold over one million copies. Yancey lives with his wife in Colorado. Website: www.philipyancey.com

'...a reader-friendly book...subtle, elusive, and evanescent, inviting readers to discern their own meaning....'Prayer' can help reinvigorate a prayer life. It invites us to believe that God is listening. (The Cleveland Plain Dealer)

'...Yancey writes...as a journalist, with a sharp eye for detail and an investigative unwillingness to force conclusions. Chapters are short, but brimming with juice. Stories abound. Part of the time, Yancey just wonders about prayer. And Yancey...is a mighty fine wonderer.... (Christianity Today)

'Philip Yancey has done it again: taken a much-written-about topic and infused it with freshness and deeply mined relevancy....This is a valuable read for anyone: youth worker, pastor, parent, mature teen -- anyone.' (YouthWorker Journal)

'...a new and powerful effort....Philip Yancey asks the tough questions about prayer that many are afraid to ask....Yancey writes as a friend and fellow-struggler, giving voice to the questions we may ponder but never bring up....This questioning process...inspires us to pursue prayer more earnestly....[This book] will encourage you as you meet with God daily and bring the details of your life before Him. You'll develop a stronger prayer vocabulary

and a richer sense of the mystery and joy of prayer.... (Presidential Prayer Team)

'...theological substance, quality of biblical reflection, and readability...make it accessible even to those coming to faith, Bible reading, or prayer for the first time....Yancey writes more as a journalist, with a sharp eye for detail and an investigative unwillingness to force conclusions....One of the chief benefits of Philip Yancey's work is that he'll go where the evidence leads....' (Christianity Today)

'...one of the many small evidences of this book's forcefulness is the number of times I did put it down -- the number of times I interrupted my reading because I was inspired to pray.... [This] is the rare book about prayer that, rather than inadvertently distracting me from the pursuit of a praying life, actually prompts me to pray....' (Books and Culture)

'Philip Yancey is that rare example of a self-proclaimed recovering fundamentalists who is actually a spiritually healthy human being.' (Birmingham News)

'...the experience of reading 'Prayer' is similar to the experience of prayer itself: a meandering journey with streaks of brilliance, communion, illumination, and satisfaction....'Prayer' is a reader-friendly book, peppered with vignettes and sidebars from people attesting to the power of prayer....[It] is subtle, elusive, and evanescent, inviting readers to discern their own meaning....'Prayer' can help reinvigorate a prayer life. It invites us to believe that God is listening.' (The Plain Dealer)

'[Prayer] is well researched, captivating, and meets the reader right where he/she is at in the moment....If you are like me and have difficulties in praying then this book is a must for you.' (134OMAG.com)

'He knows that the main purpose of prayer is not to make life easier, but to know God.' (Christian Science Sentinel)

Other Books

Prayer and the Knowledge of God. - Is it really possible to talk to God? - Does he listen to us? - How do we know what to say? - Will it make any difference if we pray? Prayer is central to Christian faith and life and such questions are fundamental. While much teaching on prayer adresses practical issues and is experience-oriented, Graeme Goldsworthy's conviction is that good practice comes from a foundation of good biblical understanding. In this accessible and wide-ranging study, Goldsworthy explores the reality of God, the ministry of Jesus Christ, and our experience of being his redeemed people as the grounds for prayer, which he defines as "talking to God." Using a biblical-theological approach, he examines the principles that lie behind particular texts in Scripture, and he maps out the "progress" of prayer from Genesis to Revelation. He explains the basis for prayer, its role in our fellowship with God, and what is involved in Christian prayer. Above all, Goldsworthy's desire is to encourage Christians in their praying, through a better understanding of, and reflection on, the "big story" of the whole Bible.

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