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The other book titles are: Purpose of Prayer, Principles of Prayer, Joy of Prayer, Service of Prayer, and Zenith of Prayer. As you can see from the outline, Basics of Prayer gives you the very foundational elements of prayer. If you are looking for a thorough, reflective, yet easy-to-read study of prayer you will enjoy this book. Outline of Basics of Prayer 1 Definition of Prayer The Nature and Meaning of Prayer Various Descriptions of Prayer The Forms of Prayer 2 Praise of Prayer — Part 1 What is Praise? What is Prayer? The Origin and Basis of Praise Common Praise The Difference between Petitionary Prayer and Praise The Interdependence of Petitionary Prayer and Praise Staying on the Path of Praise The Use of Praise in Life The Use of Praise in Warfare The Use of Praise in Prayer 3 Praise of Prayer — Part 2 Examples of Praise from the Bible Examples of Praise from Various Bible Characters 4 Intercession — Part 1 The Father's Role in Intercession The Intercession of Christ The Intercession of the Holy Spirit 5 Intercession — Part 2 The Definition of Intercession 6 Intercession — Part 3 Who to Intercede For and What to Pray For Them Our Great Responsibility to Intercede The Blessings of Intercession 7 Forgiveness Being Forgiven By God Forgiving Yourself Forgiving Others 8 Fasting Jesus Has Taught Us to Fast We Have the Examples of Many that Fasted Our Neglect of Fasting How True Fasting Has Been Described Various Types of Fasts Five Wrong Reasons to Fast Twelve Right Reasons to Fast Guidelines For Fasting 9 Prayer Posture Why Should We Be Concerned about Our Prayer Posture? 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Excerpt from Chapter One Prayer is soul to soul communication with God. So far we have said that prayer is petition. And we said that there are basically three types of petitions: (1) invocation, or asking God to be God to us and to help us commune with Him; (2) asking God for the basic things we need; and (3) intercession. Now we are saying that prayer is not only petition, it is also something more basic—it is soul to soul communication with God. And this really must come first, before we ask God for anything. For this is the heart of prayer. Before we can expect Him to listen to our requests we must have made contact with His soul by our soul. I got this idea from Jim Downing in his book Meditation, where he suggests that various passages in the Psalms (e.g., Ps. 62:5, 130:6, 25:1) "indicate that coming into contact with God involves the soul." And he stated that "Theologians in general agree as to the soul's principle powers...the mind, the affections and the will." So I am suggesting that "coming into contact with God" with our souls is really what prayer is. True prayer, therefore, will involve the mind, the affections (the heart or the emotions), and the will (that part of us that makes choices). All prayer begins with the exercise of the mind toward God. We may call it meditation. And we can meditate on all kinds of good things, but we must make the primary source of our meditation the Word. "As we meditate on the Word of God [says Jim Downing], the life of Jesus Christ flows out of Him, through the Word, and becomes a part of our spiritual bloodstream." Secondly, to engage our soul with the soul of God we must exercise our emotions (or our heart) toward God in communion. How do we do this? Well, our meditation on the word is how we start. It will open the door to heart to heart communion. When we study and meditate on His Word He speaks to us and then we listen. Communion is also speaking back to God. It is talking to God and listening. But it is even more than that. It is fellowship on the highest level. It is the sharing of His holy nature. According to Downing, "Communing...is engaging our heart with the heart of God. The result of that communion is that our soul is watered (Jer. 31:12)." Downing goes on: "Communion...is a two-way communication, an alternating impact of two personalities where we listen intently and then share intently with the other person; there is an actual sharing of lives involved." The third part of the soul is the will. With the will we make choices; we choose to obey God or not. The exercise of this part of the soul is vitally important. Our listening to God and choosing to obey Him keeps the door of our soul open to His soul; it keeps our soul in contact and communication with Him. Accordingly, our willful obedience is the key to bringing life to our soul. For by it we receive His love and power (Jn. 14:21). Without obedience our prayers drop dead; but with obedience our prayers come alive and are continually energized by His life. How to Get Basics of Prayer Free It's very easy. Just click on the image of the green book in this blog post. That will take you to Stephen's Book Store, and you will see all my books. Feel free to browse around. To get this free book just click on "Add to Cart" under the green book (Basics of Prayer) that is listed as \$0.00. Then go through the process of getting the book just as if you were buying it, except it is free. After you click on "Add to Cart," next click on "Continue to check out" at the bottom of the page. After that page comes up, then click on "Place Order." You will then see some processing going on, and a sign will come up that says "Download (pdf)." Click on that sign and it will be downloaded to your computer. From there I think you know what to do. 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