

**RULE #17**  
**Don't Pray to Anyone but God.**

*You shall have no other gods before me. Exodus 20:3*

Underline the problems in this verse.

Questions for thought:

1. Is the living God to be at the head of our list?
2. Do any other "forgotten rules" matter if we get this one wrong?
3. What does God think of prayers prayed to little gods? Deuteronomy 6:14-15

Bottom line: god is the necessary ingredient to all answered prayers--without Him prayers go unanswered.

**RULE #18**  
**Think before you pray.**

*Do not be quick with your mouth, do not be hasty in your heart to utter anything before God.*  
*Ecclesiastes 5:2*

Underline the challenge in this verse.

Questions for thought:

1. Does this rule apply universally?
2. Should a believers prayer life be characterized to include thought and preparation for prayer?
3. Where do we turn when thoughts and words fail us in prayer? (Romans 8:26)

Bottom line: Preparing our hearts and minds before we pray produces focus and compliance with God's biblical instruction on prayer.

## **RULE #19**

**For additional prayer power, add a person.**

*Again I say to you, that if two of you agree on earth about anything that they may ask, it shall be done for them by My Father who is in heaven. For where two or three have gathered in My name, I am there in their midst. Matthew 18:19-20 (NAS)*

Underline the key word in these verses.

Questions for thought:

1. What does the word "agree" mean in this passage?
2. Does this promise mean when two believers pray in agreement that they will get what they want?
3. How does this promise relate to 1 John 5:14?

Bottom line: For additional prayer power, add a person.

**RULE #20**

**Listen to the needs of others and pray for them.**

*Pray for each other. James 5:16*

What is at the heart of this command to pray?

Questions for thought:

1. What is the human dilemma in James 5:16?
2. What kind of prayer produces results?
3. What is the ultimate desired outcome of praying for each other?

Bottom line: When believers listen to and pray for each other unselfishly, God brings healing results.