

We who become Catholics by Baptism inherit two lives, namely Worldly Life and Eternal Life. Although Worldly life is short, Eternal Life has no end. We have to hoard merits (spiritual rewards) for Eternal Life. In daily prayers, we must get used to pray for the betterment of the others. Even the Holy Bible teaches on the need of praying for the good things.

Prayer of King Solomon



Picture 22.1 - King Solomon

At Gibeon God appeared to King Solomon in a dream by night; and said, “Ask what I should give you.” King Solomon said, “Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?” (1 Kings 3:9). This prayer of King Solomon pleased God. Therefore, God promised King Solomon to give a wise and discerning mind, riches and honor.

This shows that we have to pray for an understanding mind to discern between good and evil. In the same way, this stresses that we will have to pay if we go away from God. This teaches that if one keeps away from sin, God will fulfill our necessities.

Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for bread, will give a stone? Or if the child asks for a fish, will give a snake? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good things to those who ask him!

(Matthew 5:7-11)

We must make it a point to search what is spiritually good, but not what is materially good. Your life becomes meaningful if you live for others. We must have a great personality, if we are to live for others and to make others happy. The good brings us closer to God. If one looks for only material things, he may get ruined. Possessing material things may take us away from God. Therefore, one who decides what is good is God.

Activity



1. Write two parables that show that God gives good things to those who ask.
2. Write two examples that you can imitate from the prayer of King Solomon.
3. Write in 50 words how you explain the need of prayer to your friend who says, “God does not give even good things even if we ask them in prayer.”



For Life

Pray for only what is good.