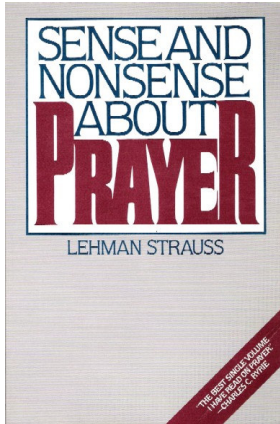


# Read 'Em and Reap!

Evangelical Christian Book Reviews  
Hebrews 5:14



**Sense and Nonsense About Prayer** – Lehman Strauss  
Does it make sense to pray if there is unconfessed sin in your life? Does it make sense to pray if you don't pray in the name of Jesus? What about asking God to send his Spirit to a place where He already is present? These are some of the questions that Lehman Strauss deals with in this informative book about prayer. If you have never examined the words you use when you pray, you should do that sometime. Often times, Christians become incoherent, unintelligible, babblers between "Our Father" and "Amen".

In a simple, straightforward manner Strauss presents some of the most sensible aspects of prayer that are often forgotten or neglected. For example, does it make sense to pray while you harbor resentment and

bitterness toward another person? It *does* make sense to forgive before going to prayer. It *does not* make sense to pray without faith. It *does not* make sense to pray if you are not abiding in Christ and His Word is not abiding in you.

Issues such as these make up the first 13 chapters. He covers prayer and marriage, prayer and fasting, prayer and selfishness, prayer and giving, prayer and the will of God as well as others.

The 14<sup>th</sup> chapter is an examination of "History's Most Debated Prayer" – what is commonly referred to as The Lord's Prayer. As Strauss discusses, this is not an accurate description of the prayer found in Matthew 6 and Luke 11. Since Jesus never actually prayed this prayer, but rather used it to teach his disciples how they should pray, a more accurate description would be "The Model Prayer".

Chapter 15 is a brief study of the prayer life of Jesus. Strauss points out the different roles that prayer played in His ministry. It commenced with prayer, continued in prayer, counted upon prayer, men were chosen in prayer, miracles were consummated by prayer, earthly ministry concluded in prayer and his ministry in Heaven continues in prayer. This chapter is a very simple, concise study of Jesus' prayer life which yields great benefits by itself.

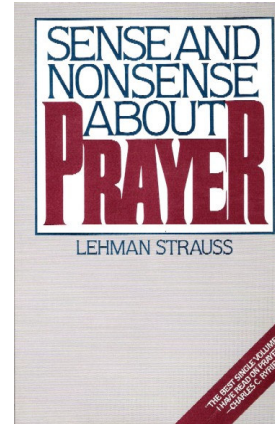
The final chapter is a Question and Answer chapter that answers various questions that have been asked of Strauss. They range from "Does God always answer the Christian's prayer?" to "How can I learn to pray?"

This small, simple manual about prayer is a beneficial addition to every Christian's library. I recommend it! *Read 'em & Reap!*

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