

## Psalm 5:1-3 (NLT2)

*O LORD, hear me as I pray; pay attention to my groaning. Listen to my cry for help, my King and my God, for I pray to no one but you. Listen to my voice in the morning, LORD. Each morning I bring my requests to you and wait expectantly.*

When we pray, are our prayers “direct” prayers, or “directional” prayers? “What’s the difference?” you may be thinking.

“Direct prayers” are when we are pouring our hearts out to God, bringing our requests to Him, knowing that He is God, and that we can come to Him at any time with any request, and that He hears us and will always take care of us.

“Directional prayers” are when we bring our requests, which include our needs, but also our wants to God. And, along with that, we also give God directions on how to handle these requests, telling God what’s best for us or someone else, and how to fix things.

Think about when someone asks for prayers. How many times do we try and play God by asking them a bunch of questions, trying to figure out how to fix it for them, or how to tell God to fix it for them (Yes, we can say ouch here). When we ask someone to pray for us, we do so because we want God to answer that prayer request. We don’t go to them so they can tell us what to do, because if we wanted their advice or counsel, we would say so. So why do we think we can take their prayer request and turn it into a council session, or as I think of the Peanuts comic strip where Lucy always has her booth where she will give her council (advice) for five cents.

Even if you think about it, how many times have we gone to God in prayer and told Him how to handle it, or gave God specifics on what He needed to do? How many times has He ever done it “OUR WAY?” Hmmm, maybe once or twice in our lifetime, or even never.

I remember way back in the early 80’s, one of my favorite songs to sing in church was actually today’s Psalm from the King James version of the bible.

† **Psalm 5:1-3 (KJV)**  
*Give ear to my words, O LORD,  
consider my meditation.  
Hearken unto the voice of my cry,  
my King, and my God:  
for unto thee will I pray.  
My voice shalt thou hear in the morning,  
O LORD; in the morning  
will I direct my prayer  
unto thee, and will look up.*

Even as I post these verses, I can hear the song in my head and in my heart, because the words to this Psalm (song) should reveal our hearts, as we cry out to God every morning. Crying out

(bringing our requests) to God, and not telling God what to do. And the key is what we first talked about, which is “*I direct my prayer*” not “I’ll give You directional prayers.”

† **Psalm 55:16-18** *As for me, I will call upon God, And the LORD shall save me. Evening and morning and at noon I will pray, and cry aloud, And He shall hear my voice. He has redeemed my soul in peace from the battle that was against me, For there were many against me.*