

The Heidelberg Catechism

117. What belongs to such prayer which is acceptable to God and which He will hear?

First, that with our whole heart¹ we call only upon the one true God, who has revealed Himself to us in His Word,² for all that He has commanded us to ask of Him;³ second, that we thoroughly know our need and misery,⁴ so as to humble ourselves in the presence of His divine majesty;⁵ third, that we be firmly assured⁶ that notwithstanding our unworthiness He will, for the sake of Christ our Lord, certainly hear our prayer,⁷ as He has promised us in His Word.⁸

¹ Jn 4:22-24; ² Rom 8:26; 1 Jn 5:14; ³ Ps 27:8; ⁴ 2 Chron 20:12; ⁵ Ps 2:10, 34:18; Isa 66:2; ⁶ Rom 10:14; Jas 1:6; ⁷ Dan 9:17-18; Jn 14:13-16; ⁸ Ps 143:1; Mt 7:8; Lk 18:13