

Small Group Bible Study / Discussion

Sermon Series: *Lord, teach us to pray* (Wrap up)

Sermon Title: Make Prayer a Life Habit
Passages - selected

Date: March 29, 2009
Message # 13

Think about it

- Why do you think most Christians, when asked, say that they should pray more?

(In other words, why aren't more believers experiencing a fruitful and healthy prayer life?)

- What would life be like without prayer?

Examine it

Look at the attached lists of passages about prayer.

- What kinds of things do you notice from the New Testament passages?

- What kinds of things do you notice from the Old Testament passages?

- Are there other passages of Scripture that particularly come to your mind when you think about prayer? If so, what are they, and why are they significant to you?

Discuss it

- What do you think a healthy prayer life looks like?

- What is difficult about developing a healthy prayer life?

Live it out

- What has been most helpful in this 13 week study on prayer for you?

- What has been most challenging in this study?

- What is one thing about prayer that you've learned (or been reminded of) that you don't want to forget?

Pray about it

What does this study prompt you to pray about?

...something to praise God for? ...thank God for? ...confess? ...ask for?

Additional passage for meditation or memory: pick a Psalm, or a portion of a Psalm

Next week's passage:

Acts 1:14 (NIV)

¹⁴ They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.

Acts 2:42 (NIV)

⁴² They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

Acts 6:4 (NIV)

⁴ and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word."

Acts 12:5 (NIV)

⁵ So Peter was kept in prison, but the church was earnestly praying to God for him.

Ephesians 6:18-19 (NIV)

¹⁸ And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.

¹⁹ Pray also for me, that whenever I open my mouth, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel,

Philippians 4:6 (NIV)

⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

Colossians 4:2 (NIV)

² Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.

Colossians 4:12 (NIV)

¹² Epaphras, who is one of you and a servant of Christ Jesus, sends greetings. He is always wrestling in prayer for you, that you may stand firm in all the will of God, mature and fully assured.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 (NIV)

¹⁶ Be joyful always;

¹⁷ pray continually;

¹⁸ give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

1 Peter 4:7 (NIV)

⁷ The end of all things is near. Therefore be clear minded and self-controlled so that you can pray.

1 Timothy 2:1-8 (NIV)

¹ I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone--

² for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.

³ This is good, and pleases God our Savior,

⁴ who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.

⁵ For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus,

⁶ who gave himself as a ransom for all men--the testimony given in its proper time.

⁷ And for this purpose I was appointed a herald and an apostle--I am telling the truth, I am not lying--and a teacher of the true faith to the Gentiles.

⁸ I want men everywhere to lift up holy hands in prayer, without anger or disputing.

Psalms 19:14 (NIV)

¹⁴ May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, O LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer.

Psalms 25:4-5 (NIV)

⁴ Show me your ways, O LORD, teach me your paths;

⁵ guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long.

Psalms 139:23-24 (NIV)

²³ Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts.

²⁴ See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

Psalms 141:3 (NIV)

³ Set a guard over my mouth, O LORD; keep watch over the door of my lips.

1 Chronicles 29:10-13 (NIV)

¹⁰ David praised the LORD in the presence of the whole assembly, saying, "Praise be to you, O LORD, God of our father Israel, from everlasting to everlasting.

¹¹ Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendor, for everything in heaven and earth is yours. Yours, O LORD, is the kingdom; you are exalted as head over all.

¹² Wealth and honor come from you; you are the ruler of all things. In your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all.

¹³ Now, our God, we give you thanks, and praise your glorious name.

Nehemiah 9:6 (NIV)

⁶ You alone are the LORD. You made the heavens, even the highest heavens, and all their starry host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them. You give life to everything, and the multitudes of heaven worship you.

Isaiah 37:16 (NIV)

¹⁶ "O LORD Almighty, God of Israel, enthroned between the cherubim, you alone are God over all the kingdoms of the earth. You have made heaven and earth.

Lamentations 3:22-23 (NIV)

²² Because of the LORD's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail.

²³ They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

Daniel 2:20-22 (NIV)

²⁰ ... "Praise be to the name of God for ever and ever; wisdom and power are his.

²¹ He changes times and seasons; he sets up kings and deposes them. He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to the discerning.

²² He reveals deep and hidden things; he knows what lies in darkness, and light dwells with him.