

## Discipleship 2 - Prayer

**Mission:** 3D Christianity is simply the discipleship process of Jesus Worship Center. It consists of (12) weeks of training by (12) qualified Christian leaders. Just as it is impossible to describe any object without the use of three dimensions, the New Testament mandate to make disciples requires training in at least these three "D's":

- 1) **D**iscipleship
- 2) **D**octrine
- 3) **D**isciplines

**Goal:** The purpose of these four classes is to condition the Christian into a **lifetime lifestyle** of imitating the life of Jesus Christ.

### Introduction

Prayer is not optional for the disciple of the Lord Jesus Christ. Prayer is the lifeblood of any strong Christian; it is the constant connection to Christ that must never be broken.

Instead of working to achieve a strong *prayer life*, focus your energies on developing a *life of prayer*. Pray before you get on the job, pray while on the job, pray before and during school. Prayer should be done unceasingly and everywhere.

1 Tim 2:8 I will therefore that **men pray every where**, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting.

Rom 1:9 For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of his Son, that **without ceasing I make mention of you always in my prayers**;

Prayer is as powerful as God is powerful.

There is one undeniable certainty concerning prayer: **Un-prayed prayers are never answered!**

Mat 6:5 And **when thou prayest**, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for **they love to pray** standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, **that they may be seen of men**. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.

Mat 6:6 But thou, **when thou prayest**, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.

Mat 6:7 But **when ye pray**, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking.

Mat 6:8 Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him.

Mat 6:9 After this manner therefore pray ye:

Prayer is one of the most misunderstood topics in the Bible. Yet, it is the easiest to master in practice! We think that prayer has to be groaning, mournful, long, tedious, etc. This is just not so!!

As you learn to pray and learn the power of prayer, you will appreciate the saying . . .

"Where there is much prayer, there is \_\_\_\_\_ power.  
Where there is little prayer, there is \_\_\_\_\_ power.  
And where there is no prayer, there is \_\_\_\_\_ power!"

1. **Jesus let us know in no uncertain terms that prayer was not \_\_\_\_\_ .**

Leonard Ravenhill in his book, *A Treasury of Prayer*, said, "Men who belong to God are **obliged** to pray. They are not obliged to grow rich, nor to make money. They are not obliged to have large success in business."

*Oblige* here means to \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_. It is where we get our word **obligate**.

Prayer is the most important ingredient in the preparation of man to do Christian service, and live an overcoming life.

A prayer-less life always precedes a \_\_\_\_\_ of direction.

2. **Jesus Christ was always a busy man, but never \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ to pray.**

Mat 14:23 And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone.

3. **What is prayer? Simply put, prayer is \_\_\_\_\_ with God.**

There really is nothing too complicated about it.

- a. You don't have to be in a certain \_\_\_\_\_ or in a particular \_\_\_\_\_ to pray.
- b. You don't have to have your hands clasped together, saying certain words in the right order.
- c. Prayer is just you \_\_\_\_\_ God what's on your heart, mind, or soul; and prayer is \_\_\_\_\_ to God was well.

4. The disciples felt that the most important thing Jesus could teach them was how to \_\_\_\_\_ .

Luke 11:1 And it came to pass, that, as he was praying in a certain place, when he ceased, one of his disciples said unto him, Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples.

5. The purposes of prayer:

a. Prayer draws your spirit \_\_\_\_\_ to His Spirit.

James 4:8 Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you.

When you get close to Him, you \_\_\_\_\_ more like Him.

b. Prayer changes your \_\_\_\_\_ .

You cannot remain under the presence of God and harbor hatred, envy, strife, etc.

He is love and when you pray that love affects your thoughts and actions.

c. Prayer affects the \_\_\_\_\_ .

Your prayers have great impact on the kingdom of evil. By praying we have power over demons!

Even the strongest demon must flee at the prayer of God's elect.

d. Prayer changes \_\_\_\_\_ .

Hezekiah prayed and changed the mind of God. He was to die and his prayer added 15 years to his life. (2 Kings 20)

**Your prayers affect the way God deals with you and those you pray for.**

e. Prayer affects \_\_\_\_\_ .

Your prayers touch the hearts of those you pray for. Your prayers cause God to move on behalf of the needs of others.

## 6. Why pray?

- a. Prayer \_\_\_\_\_ strength.

Isa 40:31 But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

- b. Prayer is nothing more than \_\_\_\_\_ between God and man.

- c. Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ us to pray

Luke 10:2 Therefore said he unto them, The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest.

- d. Prayer will keep you from \_\_\_\_\_ !

Luke 18:1 And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint;

NIV Luke 18:1 Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up.

Luke 18:2 Saying, There was in a city a judge, which feared not God, neither regarded man:

Luke 18:3 And there was a widow in that city; and she came unto him, saying, Avenge me of mine adversary.

Luke 18:4 And he would not for a while: but afterward he said within himself, Though I fear not God, nor regard man;

Luke 18:5 Yet because this widow troubleth me, I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.

Luke 18:6 And the Lord said, Hear what the unjust judge saith.

Luke 18:7 And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them?

Luke 18:8 I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?

- e. Prayer will keep you from entering \_\_\_\_\_ !

Luke 22:40 . . . he said unto them, Pray that ye enter not into temptation.

- f. Jesus was our \_\_\_\_\_ .

Mat 26:36 Then cometh Jesus with them unto a place called Gethsemane, and saith unto the disciples, Sit ye here, while I go and pray yonder.

1 Pet 2:21 For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps:

7. The Bible commands us to “pray without \_\_\_\_\_.”

1 Th 5:17 Pray \*without ceasing.

\*The Ryrie Study Bible states “this word is used for a **hacking cough.**”

a. Col 4:2 \*Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving;

\*The Greek word used here is ‘proskartereo’ which simply means **to be earnest towards** or to \_\_\_\_\_ .

**per-se-vere** intr.v.

To persist in or remain constant to a purpose, an idea, or a task **in the face of obstacles or discouragement.**

b. Eph 6:18 **Praying** \_\_\_\_\_ with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

8. Prayer is a \_\_\_\_\_ .

It will not come easy.

Someone once coined the acronym P.U.S.H. which stands for “pray until something happens.”

We believe prayer should continue even after what you’ve prayed for has come to pass , so . . . P.U.S.H. ~ P.A.S.T. (Pray after something transpires.)

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*Prayer binds satan.*

*Prayer unleashes the mighty power of heaven.*

*Prayer looses the angelic hosts to do their work on this earth.*

*Prayer changes the destinies of nations.*

*Prayer breaks strongholds over individual lives.*

*It’s no wonder satan does not want us to pray.*

9. A lack of prayer on the part of a Christian is equivalent to extending a formal \_\_\_\_\_ to the devil.

1 Pet 5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

**A prayer-less person can turn a SIMILE into a REALITY!**

The Bible did not state that the devil was a lion but compared him to a lion. Without prayer, a Christian gives the devil \_\_\_\_\_ to consume them!

## 10. The Practical of Prayer: How to pray ~ some prayer models

Vesta Mangun's Complete Prayer Clock

- |                   |                  |
|-------------------|------------------|
| a. Praise         | g. Meditation    |
| b. Forgiveness    | h. Thanksgiving  |
| c. Confession     | i. Pray the Word |
| d. Petition       | j. Singing       |
| e. Intercession   | k. Listening     |
| f. Read the Bible | l. Praise        |

The Jesus Prayer Model based on Matt 6:9-13

Mat 6:9 After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.

Mat 6:10 Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

Mat 6:11 Give us this day our daily bread.

Mat 6:12 And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

Mat 6:13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

### a. Our Father which art in heaven

Notice, we should worship Him. When you pray start with worship! As you pray, worship! When finished, worship Him! Acknowledge His power, glory, and majesty in your life!

- i. I want the characteristics of my Father; His love, His wisdom, His character, His compassion

- ii. Thanksgiving because of the Father's provision. (Thank Him for any and everything.)
- iii. Praise and worship; lift Him up; pray the Psalms; sing unto the Lord. (Psa 95:6,7; 150:1-2)

**b. Hallowed be thy name**

- i. Magnify His name; God responds to praise the way man responds to praise. Psa 29:2; Pro 18:10; Phil 2:9-11

**c. Thy kingdom come**

- i. Pray for His kingdom, His authority to be restored in the local assembly and in your personal life. Remember kingdom means king's domain. Matt 18:18  
At this point, bind the forces of darkness and things that thwart the purpose of God in your life, your family, and your church.
- ii. Pray for revival - in your family, church, city, parish, state, organization
- iii. Pray these verses:  
**Acts 4:29-30 . . . grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word, By stretching forth thine hand to heal; and that signs and wonders may be done by the name of thy holy child Jesus.**

**d. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.**

- i. God has a specific will for you today that is written in heaven. You must pray it down to earth.
- ii. At this point is a good time for intercession. Here is a verse that tells God's will.  
**2 Pet 3:9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.**
- iii. Intercede for lost loved ones, for your pastor and church leadership. This is a good place to have a list of names.
- iv. Pray for our missionaries. Name some. (Kathy Miller in France, Carly Jackson in Guatemala, Scotty Slaydon in El Salvador)
- v. Wait on the Lord. He may place a name or location He wants you to pray for.

**e. Give us this day our daily bread.**

- i. Pray for God's provision - another good place for lists. Be specific.  
**John 16:24 Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full.**

- ii. Remind God of every bill, every note, everything you can imagine that you are financially obligated to.
- iii. Pray for God's wisdom in handling your finances.

**f. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.**

- i. Immediately search your heart. If there is anyone that you bear a grudge for or any other of this sort of emotions are in you, repent! Don't repent in generalities. Be specific with God and honest before Him. Spend some time here.
- ii. Wait on the Lord.

**g. And lead us not into temptation**

- i. Ask God to not let you go anywhere that you cannot handle. Ask Him to cause you to be sensitive to His Spirit.

**h. Deliver us from evil**

- i. This verse literally means the evil one. Pray it.

**i. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.**

- i. Conclude with more praise and adoration. Be creative.

*Homework*

- *Commit to a prayer plan for the next 30 days - it can be something as simple as praying before you get out of bed or simply committing to praying three times a day for three minutes.*