



PERSONAL DISCIPLESHIP

SESSION 7: PRAYER & DISCIPLESHIP

A personal prayer habit is vitally important in the life of a disciple maker. Not only does it remind us of our dependence upon God for sanctification, but we must also model healthy prayer disciplines in our discipleship of others.

We learn how to pray by praying.

Reasons We Fail to Pray

1. **Lack of** - We are doers by default. Relying on a God we cannot see with requests we cannot handle requires faith.
2. **Lack of** - We talk awkwardly if we don't know the person to whom we are talking. God wants to hear our prayers because he is a good Father.
3. **Lack of** - Distractions can ruin our prayer life. Conflicts, concerns, and chores fill our minds and hinder us from persevering in prayer.
4. **Lack of** - The problem of prayer is not the content or the recipient – its the method. Prayer isn't boring – we are.

Reasons We Should Pray

1. **Jesus** that prayer is important (Matt. 6:5-8; Matt. 7:7-8; Matt. 9:36-38; Matt. 21:22; Matt. 26:41). Through his teaching, Jesus emphasized the priority of prayer.
2. **Jesus** that prayer is important (Mark 1:35; Luke 6:12; Matt. 14:23; Luke. 22:39-41). Through his example, Jesus indicated our need to pray.

Ways We Can Pray

1. **Prepare prayer** . When I prioritize prayer at certain times, it becomes more habitual all the time. Setup prayer reminders throughout your day.
2. **Refresh prayer** . If prayer time in your home or group is boring, then change it up. Get creative and keep prayer times fresh.
3. **Identify prayer** . Learn how to view the world through the lens of prayer. Look for triggers throughout the day that can serve as calls to prayer.
4. **Maintain prayer** . Reinvigorate your faith as you keep track with how God answers prayer. Create a guide to make sure you pray for differing focuses.
5. **Establish prayer** . The best words to use in prayer are God's Words. When we pray Scripture, we are not led by our feelings but guided by truth.

If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you (John 15:7).

Prayer Passages

- **Praying the** - Take the calendar day of the month, and pray that psalm or an increment of 30.
- **Praying the** - Pray through each line of Jesus' prayer (Matt. 6:9-13) and expand on each focus.
- **Praying the** - Use your Bible reading plan to provide direction for your prayers.