



WEEK 4: Praying

Reasons we neglect prayer:

- I really don't know _____ to pray.
- I don't have _____ to pray.
- I just don't _____ praying.
- I don't think _____ works.

Reasons we do pray:

- Prayer is _____.

But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed.

Luke 5:16 (NIV)

- Prayer is _____.

We live in the bold confidence that God hears our voices when we ask for things that fit His plan. And if we have no doubt that He hears our voices, we can be assured that He moves in response to our call.

1 John 5:14-15 (VOICE)

- Prayer is _____.

Then another angel with a gold incense burner came and stood at the altar. And a great amount of incense was given to him to mix with the prayers of God's people as an offering on the gold altar before the throne. The smoke of the incense, mixed with the prayers of God's holy people, ascended up to God from the altar where the angel had poured them out.

Revelation 8:3-4 (NLT)

How we pray:

...“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.”

Matthew 6:9-13 (NIV)

1. Pray with _____ and _____.

...“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,”

Matthew 6:9 (NIV)

2. Pray with _____ and seek God's _____.

“your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.”

Matthew 6:10 (NIV)

3. Pray with _____ for what you _____.

“Give us today our daily bread.”

Matthew 6:11 (NIV)

4. Pray with _____ and _____.

“And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.”

Matthew 6:12 (NIV)

5. Pray with _____ for God's _____.

“And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.”

Matthew 6:13 (NIV)



empty & filled

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Discussion Questions:

1. How do you define prayer?
2. Has God always answered your prayers in the way that you expected or desired? And if God hasn't, how have you responded?
3. What do you frequently pray about? Are there people and particular situations God is inviting you to pray for in this season?
4. How has prayer transformed you?

Recommended Resources:

- *How to Pray: A Simple Guide for Normal People*, by Pete Greig
- *Prayer in the Night: For Those Who Work or Watch or Weep*, by Tish Harrison Warren
- *Pauses for Lent: 40 Words for 40 Days*, by Trevor Hudson
- *Journey to the Cross*, by Paul David Tripp
- *Spiritual Disciplines Companion*, by Jan Johnson