

God's Beautiful Disciplined Church: Engage in Prayer
Week's Reading: Matthew 6:5-18; Luke 5:13-16; Philippians 4:6-7;
Colossians 4:2-6; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18
Discussion Guide: July 17, 2022

CHECK UP:

Memory Work Review:

Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it. – Luke 11:28

Did you start any new discipline practice in consuming God's Word this past week?

OPEN:

- If you were to define prayer, what would your definition be?
- Describe your prayer life. Is it active? Empty? Invigorating? Vital? Confusing? Hit and miss?
 - o How reliant and confident are you in your prayer life?

READ and ASK: Luke 5:15-16; Matthew 6:5-18; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18; Ephesians 1:17; Philippians 4:6-7; James 1:5-6,

- Why is prayer so important for followers of Jesus?
- Based on these passages (and other passages you know), what are some of the most important "contents" of prayer?
 - o How do our prayer contents line up with this?
 - o In what ways do you think Christian prayers need refocused?
- One of the fundamentals of prayer is coming to God as a holy loving father. When you think of God, does He feel like a loving father? Why or why not?
 - o What do you think needs to change in order for you to sense God as a loving and patient father?
- What does God being "of the heavens" portray of God's ability and wisdom in answering prayer?
- Prayer is about God. How would focusing on God and His will impact your prayer life and as a result your Christian life?
- What things are we to pray for?

APPLY:

- In what ways do you find it difficult to have meaningful prayer times?
- How difficult is it for you to trust God to provide for your needs?
- In what ways do you resist allowing God's kingdom to come in your life?
 - o How do your prayers need to be more centered on God's will for your life?
 - o Where do your will and God's will conflict the most?
- Of all the things discussed and passages read on prayer this week, where are you most challenged?
- NEXT STEP: The best way to learn to pray, is to pray. What steps do you need to take starting this week to be disciplined in prayer?

Memory Work:

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. - 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Next Week's Reading:

John 4:1-26; Ephesians 5:15-20; Psalm 27:4;
Romans 1:20; Hebrews 10:24-25; Acts 2:42-47