

Discipline #2: CONTINUAL PRAYER – I am always talking to God.

Key Verses for the Series

- ***Col 4:23** Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving;
 - ***Eph 6:18** praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints
 - ***Phil 4:6** Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;
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Series Schedule

- **February 8 – What Does It Mean (& NOT Mean) To Pray?**
- **February 15 – Why Pray?**
- **February 22 – How to Pray**
- **March 1 – What to Pray For (and Not to Pray For)**
- **March 8 – What to Pray For (and Not to Pray For)**
- **March 15 & 22 – Review**

Praying Is What Believers Do

1 Cor 1:2 – To the church of God which is at Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called [to be] saints, with all who in every place call on the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours:

What Does It Mean to Pray?

Praying Is Talking to God

1 Tim 2:1 Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, *and* giving of thanks be made for all men, (you might want to compare with the Model Prayer: Matt 6:9-13 – have students have Matt 6 open)

Praising God (prayers)

Telling God that You Know Who He Is (holy, creator, savior, lord of the universe)

Telling God that You Want What He Wants

Asking God

To meet your physical and spiritual needs (supplications)

To meet the physical and spiritual needs of others (intercessions)

Thanking God (giving of thanks)

For What God Has Done

For What God Has Not Done

What Does It NOT Mean?

- Praying is not repeating empty words. (Matthew 6:7)
- Praying is not telling God something He does not know. (Matthew 6:8)
- Praying is not getting God to do something that He would not otherwise do. We must ask according to His will. (Matt 6:9-10; John 14:13-14; James 4:3; 1 John 5:14)
- Praying is not a way to bypass obedience. (Matt 6:12-13; 1 John 3:22; James 5:16)
- Praying is not getting God to work against the choices that people make for themselves. He will help people, but He will not MAKE someone change his mind. (Rom 1; Col 3:1-4)
- Praying is not two-way communication. Through prayer we talk to God. God talks to us through His Word.