



## **"WEEK #5- PRAYER"**

Preached: October 10, 2021

Series: "The Essentials"

Scripture: Matthew 6:5-8

### SECTION 1 – PRAYER

Since this week's focus is on prayer, try beginning your time with prayer. Here are a few questions that might guide your prayer time.

1. What are things that you are in constant prayer for?
2. What are the things in your life right now that you are praying for?
3. If you could change or adjust one part of your prayer life, what would that be?

Pray for each other. Have each person pray for the person to their right so that everyone gets the opportunity to pray. You can pray for one another out loud OR each person can pray silently for the person next to them.

### SECTION 2 – SMALL GROUPS QUESTIONS

1. Check in question – How did it feel to start with prayer this week? Does it change how you approach the small group questions?
2. What do you think a healthy rhythm of prayer looks like for you? Have you observed someone else's rhythm of prayer and been envious of their time?

3. Do you sometimes feel like a hypocrite when you pray? Why or why not?
  
4. Everyone these days says, "Our thoughts and prayers are with you." Do you think this is a good thing for Christians to say to someone else? How might you say that statement and actually mean it? Is there ever a time that you stop and pray for someone out loud in the moment of their need?
  
5. Do you ever feel a sense of reward when you have prayed? Have you ever experienced a time when you prayed for something and it happened? Have you ever prayed for something and it didn't happen? Where is God in either of these scenarios?
  
6. Do you have a quiet place that you go to pray?

For additional study. Here are a few passages of scripture from the New Testament that I think can help us be informed about prayer.

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. ~ Philippians 4:6-7

Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. ~ Colossians 4:2

Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. ~ Romans 12:12

Therefore, confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective. ~James 5:16

The end of all things is near. Therefore, be alert and of sober mind so that you may pray. ~1 Peter 4:

### SECTION 3 - MOMENT ON MISSION

**Partners in the community** – We are partnering again with Samaritan's Purse to participate in their Operation Christmas Child. Check out the Church website for more information. [LINK HERE](#)

**On your own** – In the midst of your everyday life, find a time to pray in quiet for five minutes a day for a week. Keep a journal and see what God might do during that time. If you feel overwhelmed by this thought, call Pastor Keenan and he can give you some suggestions about how to get started.