

“Prayer in FAITH ”
A Personal or Small Group Experience

I have always struggled a bit with those outlandish promises in the bible about prayer. Promises like the one found in John 15:7 “ask whatever you wish, and it will be given to you.” At first glance it seems like prayer is access to the ultimate Santa Claus. Well there is something deep in us all that tells us we know this isn’t true, but instead of really digging into what is “true” about this promise the ole devil plants seeds of doubt in our hearts and minds about the effectiveness of prayer at all. Those seeds of doubt lay there, slowly growing and subversively invading our hearts and faith to render many of us less prayer-filled and therefore less life-filled than God envisions us to be.

When we look more deeply into prayer we do see that prayer is always seen in a context of a life of faith. At the core of faith is the fact that “God gets to be God and I don’t get to be God!” Embracing that reality puts healthy boundaries around my “ask whatever I wish”. In this study we are going to allow God to lead us into a deeper understanding of the “life of faith” context of the His prayer promises. In this context then He calls us to radically believe the power and effectiveness of prayer.

First, read over the scriptures in James that are included in these message notes and that were covered in the message this week. Discuss what God is teaching about prayer promises in the context of faith relationship.

Secondly turn to John 15:1-17 Read this section several times and then notice and discuss

- The poignant prayer promises in the text, (find the verses)
- The “faith connection” context which surrounds these promises,
- How does this context shape the way you understand the “ask whatever you wish” promise!
- Notice the key word “remain”. What is Jesus trying to communicate?
- Notice the “love” command! How does that fit in.

After you finish this discussion, and if you have time, read over the hand-out on the world wide prayer movement that was given Sunday!



Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD rises upon you.

Isaiah 60:1

“Connecting With God” Weekly Guide

This booklet is a resource to help you “Connect with God” this week. He deeply desires ongoing personal connection with you. You are that important to Him.

This Page has some scripture verses for you to meditate on each day this week. Notice the helpful hints section – these are great things to consider when personally engaging with God through His Word.

The Center Pages contain the notes and outline for the message given on Sunday. The message is also available as an audio download from www.pointofgracechurch.org

The Back Page has a study written specifically for a small group of people (or an individual) to drill down deeper into a particular aspect of the week’s theme. Small groups can review memorable points of the week’s message and then work through the study concluding with a time of prayer.

Scripture & Meditation Guide - November 29-December 4

Helpful Hints:

- 1) Find a quiet place along with 15-20 minutes!
- 2) Focus on God for a few moments asking His Spirit to speak to your heart!
- 3) Listen to Him by reading a section of scripture then rereading it several times, dwelling on “words and phrases” which grab your heart’s attention.

Ask God, “What do You want me to hear?” “Why this word at this time?”
“How are You inviting me to respond?”

- 4) Pray everything that is on your heart and mind as you are ready!

Worship Him, Bless Him, Thank Him, Ask Him, Trust Him

Monday: John 15:1-8

Tuesday: John 15:9-17

Wednesday: Philippians 4:4-7

Thursday: Psalm 62

Friday: Psalm 121

Saturday: Psalm 34