

THE POWER OF PRAYER

AG

Series I Session 6

Understanding the vital role of prayer in all aspects of life

Communication is *foundational* to any relationship. Prayer is simply communicating with God.

**What are the roles of communication in human relationships?
How are these reflected in a relationship with God?**



Imagine what your friendship with someone would be like if you only spoke to them for 20 seconds a day. Would it be a deep friendship? Would you really get to know them?

“With no communication, our relationship with God is dead. If we’re going to grow, we need to learn to talk and listen to him.”

The Bible is full of sections that talk about prayer:

Split into groups and take some time to look at a couple of the following passages:

Matthew 6: 5-13

Matthew 7:7-11

Philippians 4: 4-7

I Thess. 5: 16-18

James 4:2-3

What does the passage say about how and when we should pray?

How can we apply this teaching to our lives?



In prayer we share in the heart and mind of God and we become a part of what He’s doing, touching our friends, towns, countries and the whole world. What God wants to do through us far exceeds what we can do in our own strength and ability. Through prayer, we draw on His endless resources. God used the early church to transform the Roman Empire, changing the world through their prayers and passionate lives. He longs to do the same through us if we’ll trust and obey him.

Acts 4: 23-31: The Believers' Prayer

On their release, Peter and John went back to their own people and reported all that the chief priests and elders had said to them. When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God.

"Sovereign Lord," they said, "you made the heaven and the earth and the sea, and everything in them. You spoke by the Holy Spirit through the mouth of your servant, our father David: "Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain? The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers gather together against the Lord and against his Anointed One. Indeed Herod and Pontius Pilate met together with the Gentiles and the people of Israel in this city to conspire against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed. They did what your power and will had decided beforehand should happen. Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. Stretch out your hand to heal and perform miraculous signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus."

After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.

What were the key elements that made this prayer so effective?



Do your prayers look like this?

“Regularly spending time in prayer allows us to develop our relationship with God and begin to experience the fullness of his power in our lives.”

Luke 5:16

But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed.

What do we learn about Jesus' own practices of prayer?



If you don't already have a regular time with God each day, think about what the best time and place would be to put this into your daily schedule.

Now, break into groups and spend some time thanking God for his provision through prayer.

