

## 6 TYPES OF PRAYER

**Love:** How do these devotions teach about the love of God and the love for one another?

**Learn:** What have you learned about where Jesus walked that helps you with where you walk?

**Share:** What key insights have you learned this week on how to share your faith with others?

**Monday August 15<sup>th</sup>** - *The Prayer of Agreement.* Read Matthew 18:19. This type of prayer is done in community where you are praying with someone for something specific in their life. It is important to make sure that how you are praying and what they really want are the same. God will still hear and answer prayer regardless of how we pray, that's grace. However, this kind of prayer is helpful for someone to know that someone has made an effort to see how they feel. *When have you used the prayer of agreement? Do you find it unique or different from your normal prayer life?*

**Tuesday, August 16<sup>th</sup>** - *The Prayer of Faith.* Read Mark 11:24 and Hebrews 11:1. We are drawn to prayer because of a felt need. So when you pray, not before, and not after, but *when* you pray, believe God is responding. You have to be on the same page as God to begin with, otherwise you might ask for something superficial. In Mark's gospel, we are never told when we will see the result of receiving what we have asked for. I believe God also answers our prayer based on our faith and according to our need. This is a really silly analogy to make the point so bear with me...If I am hungry and really want a cheeseburger but I am also someone who doesn't have enough food, God might answer the base need of my prayer: my hunger, not my desire for a specific food. We pray. We believe. We trust.

**Wednesday, August 17<sup>th</sup>** - *The Prayer of Consecration and Dedication.* Read Luke 22:41-42. This is for times when you want to be obedient to God but have no clue what God is really wanting. You pray that "God's Will be done" but that if there is any other way, you'd prefer that! It is a way to formally invite God to make decisions and provide guidance for your life. The key for this kind of prayer is not to simply say, "Your will be done," and continue as though nothing happened. We must take time with this prayer to listen for God. A great way to do this is to use a prayer journal. State the issue you are going through and the possible outcomes. Pray over each one and invite God for guidance. If both choices line up with scripture and the Christian life, you simply dedicate this decision to God and say, "God, I'm going to go with option A, with your guidance." Use Proverbs 16:9 as a guideline: "In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord directs their steps."

**Thursday, August 18<sup>h</sup>** - *The Prayer of Praise and Worship.* Read Luke 2:20, John 11:41, and Philippians 4:6. In this prayer, you aren't asking God for anything. You just want to give God praise and to thank God for the many blessings given and the gift of mercy through grace. You simply are saying to God, "I love you." This takes place in the Bible after healing or restoration and there is no other response but a celebration of God's goodness. It is appropriate to use this prayer with other forms. For example, if you are praying a prayer of faith, you can bring in a prayer of praise or worship, to thank God for faithfulness in the past and to set the tone for your humbly asked request.

**Friday, August 19<sup>th</sup>** - *The Prayer of Intercession.* Read Ephesians 1:15-18. Intercession praying is praying for others. It is done in times when the person you are praying with or for cannot really respond for themselves. This is the kind of prayer I use in the hospital visits that I make. It can also be a prayer used for larger things like churches, communities, even governments. It can be more specific too if you know the person's needs. Paul prays in this passage today for the people of Ephesus and since we know he didn't describe "agreement" but was praying "for", it was not a prayer of agreement. Making requests for someone else, you intercede on their behalf with God.

**Saturday, August 20<sup>th</sup>** - *The Prayer of Binding and Loosing.* Read Matthew 18:18-19. We have certain authority because of our relationship with Jesus Christ. Our prayers must line up with the will of God and the love of Jesus. For example, I cannot bind a team from winning the football game or to make someone love me. While this kind of prayer was used in ancient times primarily with spirits, today we can pray to bind cancer or bigotry, and these prayers will be answered. However, the one caveat I will make is this: Your actions must mirror your prayer. You cannot sit by while racist comments are made if you have prayed for an end to racism. An active prayer life is never meant to take the place of our necessary actions as followers of Jesus Christ. We might bind something bad, we might loose God's angels upon a darkness in our world, but we must stand up for those things we have prayed for and live into that hopeful change.

**Serve:** Look at the prayer list. Who can you pray for? Who needs a little extra help in an area where you can make a difference?

**Healing Strength:** Charlie Walters, Jill Hagan, Darin Floyd (Sally Grau's son), Chris & Katie Hamon, Rex Townsend, Stan Enschede, Chris Osborn (Ken and Sandy Grubb's daughter), Janet Coons (Donna McCullough's daughter)

**Sympathies:** Family of LeAnne Schemenaur

**Homebound Members:** Mary Hicks, Mary Schmidt, Joann Young, Jeanne Carman

**Military Personnel:** Adam Walters, Joseph Roberts, Lucas Lamkin, Adam Clark