

God's Word is ! a MIRROR

"Yes, Lord" Attitude
Submisión/obedience

SESSION SIX **GETTING READY TO PRAY**

"WHAT AM I DOING THAT GOD DOES NOT WANT ME TO DO ? WHAT AM I NOT DOING THAT HE WANTS ME TO DO ?

**ASK GOD TO SHOW YOU THE SINS IN YOUR LIFE, WHEN HE DOES, MAKE A SIN LIST!
PRAY A PRAYER LIKE THIS!**

David:

A FULL-SCALE INVESTIGATION

Text: Psalm 139

Vv. 23,24: "Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me, and know my thoughts; and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me, in the way everlasting."

Psalm 66:18: "If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me"

Isaiah 59:1-2: "Behold the Lord's hand is not shortened that He cannot save; neither is His ear heavy that He cannot hear, but your iniquities have separated between you and your God and your sins have hid His face from you so that He cannot hear."

In preparation for personal prayer, there needs to be a life free from sin for prayer to take place. Take your Bible and read slowly and deliberately **Psalm 139**. Then, with, your Bible still open beside you to **Psalm 139**, slowly re-read this section.

INVESTIGATION COMMON TODAY. Our nation will stand for many years in the tragic shadow of the findings of the Watergate investigations. This debacle seemed to touch off a chain reaction of investigations in America. Though the findings proved embarrassing in many instances, we do well to note the unpublicized results of such investigations; the cleansing of the system, the condemnation of the guilty, the clearing of the just, and confirmation of justice.

It is important to re-read the entire Psalm. Do it now.

Who among us does not need often to have a full-scale investigation in our lives? **Psalm 139** sets forth the qualities of a proper investigation.

I. THERE MUST BE A CONFIDENCE IN THE INVESTIGATOR.

- A. The reaches of His intelligence (vv. 1-6)
 - 1. Past knowledge (v. 1)
 - 2. Present positions and locations (vv. 2,3)
 - 3. Word and thoughts (vv. 2-4)
- B. The realms of His influence (vv. 7-12)
 - 1. Heaven and hell (v. 8)
 - 2. Remote isles of the sea (vv. 9,10)
 - 3. Darkness (vv. 11,12)
- C. The rightness of His intentions (vv. 13-20)
 - 1. God presided over my birth (v. 13)
 - 2. God purposes my life (vv. 14-18)
 - 3. God punishes the wicked (vv. 19,20)

PRINCIPLES IN GETTING RIGHT WITH OTHERS

- I. Be sure you need to go
 - A) Go to God first
 - B) "If I" situations are out
 - C) "Tearing Down" principle
- II. Approach: God has really been working in my life.
I'm not the same person. Forgive me for: (Be specific)
- III. Don't write it
- IV. Be cautious!

II. THERE MUST BE A CALL TO BE INVESTIGATED.

- A. A personal commitment against the wickedness (vv. 21,22)
- B. A personal investigation called for (v. 23)
- C. A pervasive investigation called for (know my heart and thoughts) v. 23
- D. A purposeful investigation called for (To see if there be any wicked way in me) v.24

III. THERE MUST BE A COMMITMENT TO ABIDE BY THE INVESTIGATION'S FINDINGS.

- A. A personal commitment (Lead me) v. 24b
- B. A permanent commitment (In the way everlasting) v.24



SESSION SEVEN

A-C-T-S: PERSONAL PRAYING

Acts 1-8 could well be described as SATURATION EVANGELISM IN JERUSALEM. Many believe that the population of Jerusalem was approximately 250,000 during this time. At the close of **Acts 8**, most believe that 100,000 to 125,000 were members of the Jerusalem church. WHAT IS THE EXPLANATION OF SUCH GROWTH? If we can spot the secret, can we not assume that if we will replicate this ingredient(s) that we can see growth today? GOD HAS NOT CHANGED!

5 Emphases of the Early Church:

1. Doctrine Word of God
2. Spirit-filled
3. Prayer
4. Witnessing Psalm 126:5-6
5. Stewardship

I. LET US PRAY

Enroll as a serious student in Jesus' School of Prayer.

THE MAIN THING IS TO

KEEP THE MAIN THING

THE MAIN THING!

PRIORITY DISCIPLINE

A. IMPORTANCE OF PRAYER

PURPOSE OF CHRISTIAN FAITH is that we might have a meaningful encounter with the true and living God. PRAYER IS THE WAY GOD GIVES US HIS CHOICEST BLESSINGS; a way whereby His work grows and prospers.

James 4:2 "Ye have not because ye ask not"

B. SOME BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES as we learn to pray.

1. **ESTABLISH A TIME TO MEET THE LORD.** Set an appointment. Keep the appointment.
 - a. Begin by giving a few minutes a day for prayer. AS THESE MOMENTS ARE BLESSED, IT WILL NOT BE LONG UNTIL YOU ARE SCHEDULING MORE TIME FOR PRAYER. There must be a beginning, however. MAKE AN APPOINTMENT WITH GOD AND KEEP THE APPOINTMENT!
 - b. **EARLY MORNING PRAYING.** Mind fresher, problems of day are out before us, and we need His strength; He got up "a great while before day" (**Mark 1:35**). The watch of the night was 3-6 A.M.

(1) Example of Jesus.

(2) Explanation of Jesus.

(3) Principle: Get God in on the beginning!

Don't wait until you've messed up your day and then bring the pieces for Him to put back together.

2. **ESTABLISH A PLACE TO MEET THE LORD.** As free from interruptions as possible.

CLOSET PRAYING

- A. Set place
- b. Shut place
- c. Secluded place

Psychological set will work for you!

II. A - C - T - S HOW TO PRAY

THEME: “How Great Thou Art.”

A-ffirm God's presence

Isaiah 40:31 _____

Psalm 46:10-11 _____

James 4:8 _____

Psalm 37:7 _____

FIRST STEP: Merely to be quiet and REMIND OURSELVES THAT GOD IS WITH US. Empty bodies, minds, souls and become absorbed in the thought that “He is.” Wait and you will sense an invisible change taking place.

USE SCRIPTURES

Exodus 14:13 _____

“TAKE OFF YOUR SHOES MOSES. YOU ARE ON HOLY GROUND” ATTITUDE

READ BIBLE FIRST !

PRAYER IS A GREAT DISCIPLINE, AND ITS EXERCISE CONTRIBUTES VERY GREATLY TO THE WORK OF PERFECTING WHICH THE SPIRIT IS CARRYING ON IN THE SOUL. IT'S THE LEAST SENSATIONAL, AND LEAST OBSTRUCTIVE OF OUR SPIRITUAL ACTIVITIES: BUT IT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT AND THE MOST POTENT.

- ALEXANDER WHYTE

A QUOTATION FROM DR. SIDLOW BAXTER

“I care not what black spiritual crisis we may come through or what delightful spiritual Canaans we may enter, no blessing of the Christian life becomes continuously possessed unless we are men and women of regular, daily, unhurried, secret lingerings with God. None can be retained apart from a meaningful prayer life.”

A-dore Him

Praise God for Who He Is. Seek His face.

Adoration is glory we give GOD FOR WHO HE IS HIMSELF. Contemplation of the glorious nature of God. PRAISE for what He is in Himself. His essence. His character.

WHAT IS THE BASIC PURPOSE OF MAN?

To honor God and glorify Him forever.

Isaiah 43:7

Focus on His majesty and glory.

There is something about the nature of God that demands Praise.

NOT THANKSGIVING, which is the glory we give to God FOR WHAT HE HAS DONE FOR US. Not seeking His hand, but His face.

Chief occupation in heaven is to praise the Lord.

Revelation 5:11-14; 7:9-12

Recall His character

Recall His attributes

Recall His essence:

...His love

...His splendor

...His power

...His beauty

...His wisdom

...His holiness

WHO GOD IS?

USE LETTERS OF ALPHABET TO REMEMBER
WHO GOD IS IN YOUR PRAISING:

A = Almighty, All sufficient, Alpha.

B = Beginning, Bread, Beautiful.

C = Creator, Comforter, Changeless.

D = Deliverer

E = Eternal

F = Faithful, Father, Friend

G = Good, Gracious, Glorious.

H = Holy

I = Immutable, Invincible

J = Jealous, Just, Judge, Joyous

K = King, Knowing, Kind

L = Loving, Loyal, Life

M = Merciful, Master, Mighty

N = Near

O = OMNISCIENT
OMNIPOTENT
OMNIPRESENT
OMEGA

P = Pure, Patient, Prince of Peace

Q = Quiet

R = Righteous, Radiant, Ruler

S = Sovereign, Secure, Spotless

T = Truth, Tender, Trustworthy

U = Understanding, Universal

V = Victorious

W = Wise, Wonderful

X = Xcellent

Y = Yearn

Z = Zealous

REMEMBER
DANIEL 11:32?

Psalm 50:23

Hebrews 13:15

Psalm 33:1

Psalm 34:1

Psalm 40:3

Psalm 48:1

Psalm 57:8-9

Psalm 107:8-9

Let's praise the Lord!

Matthew 21:28-30 “And afterward he repented and went.” First Son.

REPENT = _____

Literally - “a turning around.”– Not so much physical, but mental.

Isaiah 59:1-2 _____

What separates us from God?

If we are to find a fresh, personal relationship with God in prayer–IF WE ARE TO ENJOY UNBROKEN FELLOWSHIP – sins that are barriers to our fellowship with Him must be FORGIVEN, CLEANSED, AND REMOVED.

1 John 1:9 _____

I. MAKE CONFESSION PERSONAL

Deal with specific acts of transgression

PERSONAL CHECKLIST could be made listing sins.

SUMMARY: 1. Doing of forbidden things. “What exactly did I do?
2. Failure to do expected things. “What exactly did I not do?

A. ACTIONS AGAINST GOD

Psalm 51:4 - _____

B. SINS OF TEMPERAMENT

Selfishness, pride, stinginess, fear, worry, anxiety, cowardice, jealousy, anger, bad temper, impatience, irritability, complacency, vindictiveness, peevishness, lust.

C. SINS AGAINST MY FELLOWMAN

Unkind words and deeds, critical spirit, deceit, lack of forgiveness, spite, malice, hatred, enmity, grudges, unwillingness to be reconciled, dislike or hatred of some, prejudice, failure to be honest and true in personal feeling, indifference to the needs of others, failure to use my influence for God’s good.

D. SINS OF NEGLECT. Not taking time to do. . .

Bible study, prayer, witnessing _____

2. THE PROMISE OF FORGIVENESS (1 John 1:9)

T-hanksgiving.

Luke 17:17 *“Were there not ten cleansed, where are the Nine?”* **EXTENT OF INGRATITUDE?**

THEME: “PRAISE THE LORD!”

Ingratitude is one of our most serious shortcomings. He pours out blessings, we fail to say “THANKS.”

I. THE BIBLE AND THANKSGIVING.

Psalm 103:2-5 _____

Psalm 118:1 _____

Lamentations 3:22-23 _____

JESUS GAVE THANKS

Matthew 14:19 - fed 5,000.

John 11:41,42 _____

Before He raised Lazarus.

PAUL GAVE THANKS.

2 Cor. 9:15 _____

Colossians 3:12-17

v.15 *“Be thankful.”*

v.17 *“And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.”*

2. BE SPECIFIC

To be thankful for EVERYTHING may lead us be thankful FOR NOTHING. “Count...name one by one.”

- a. My creation
- b. Privilege of being alive in God’s beautiful world
- c. Forgiveness of Sin
- d. New Life in Christ
- e. God’s constant presence
- f. God’s patience
- g. Health and strength: Mental, Physical, Emotional
- h. Abounding material gifts
- i. Privilege of prayer and answers
- j. Victories in life through God’s power
- k. God’s leadership
- l. God’s discipline
- m. Home (strength, security and love)
- n. Blessed fellowship of a local church
- o. Christian friends
- p. Glorious hope of everlasting life in heaven.
- q.

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1. PHYSICAL
2. MATERIAL
3. SPIRITUAL
4. PEOPLE

3. IN EVERYTHING GIVE THANKS

1 Thes 5:18 _____

“I have a headache, but praise the Lord I still have a head to ache.”

S-eeking for self. **PETITION**

Psalm 119:117 “Uphold me that I may be safe, That I may have regard for Thy statutes continually”.



THEME: “ PRAISE GOD, I NEED YOU ”

Philippians 4:6 (Living Bible) - “ Don’t worry about anything. Instead pray about everything. Tell God your needs and don’t forget to thank Him for His answers.”

S - Eeking through prayer, first for ourselves - petition

1. WHY DO WE HAVE TO ASK?

God does give us many things without our asking. IF WE ONLY HAD TODAY WHAT WE ASKED FOR IN PRAYER, MOST OF US WOULD BE MATERIAL AND SPIRITUAL PAUPERS.

PRAYER IS THE EXPERIENCE WHEREBY WE BRING OUR LIVES INTO HARMONY WITH GOD’S WILL SO THAT HE CAN BESTOW HIS HIGHEST BLESSINGS UPON US.

...God feeds the birds but He does not put the worms into nests.

...We have to pick up a fork and eat; He does not feed us directly.



2. ASKING FOR OURSELVES.

Remember Jabez (**1 Chronicles 4:9-10**)

God is our Father. Talk to Him as children talk with human fathers.

John 14:14 _____

We need assurance God is with us - HIS SPIRIT EMPOWERING ME/LEADING ME.
Begin each day by asking the Lord to come afresh in my life.

FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT

Galatians 5:22,23 Fruit of the Spirit is LOVE. From love, eight other qualities.

3. PUT ON THE WHOLE ARMOR.

Ephesians 6:12 _____

“Lord, I am putting on the _____

e.g., “Helmet of salvation - protect my mind from any attack of the devil,”

4. CRUCIFYING THE FLESH.

Day by day crucify that old fleshly nature with all its power to pull us down.

Galatians 5:24 _____

Galatians 2:20 _____

1 Corinthians 15:31 _____

Luke 9:23 _____

MOST PRAYERS ARE FULL OF PETITIONS FOR OUR PHYSICAL, SOCIAL AND SPIRITUAL NEEDS. THIS IS TO BE EXPECTED; HOWEVER, THE BULK OF OUR PRAYING SHOULD NOT BE PETITION PRAYING, HERE IS A GUIDELINE: WHAT IS IT THAT I NEED TO HELP ME BE WHAT GOD WANTS ME TO BE AND TO DO WHAT GOD WANTS ME TO DO? PRAY ABOUT IT!

Seeking for others INTERCESSION

Make a prayer list with specific requests for each day. Don't forget to record God's answers. Keep the running journal as a constant reminder that the God you serve is a prayer-answering God!

PRAY DAILY FOR LABORERS



Can ask for specific things.

Moses intercedes. See **Exodus 32:32**: _____

The Early Church. **Acts 12:5**: _____

God answered and sent an angel who broke the chains and opened the prison doors to set Peter free. GOD IS A MIRACLE-WORKING GOD. All His resources are available to us.

1. **FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLE. INTERCESSION.**
Focus the power of God on another person or on a specific situation.
2. **HOW TO BEGIN.**
 - a. Start with a prayer list.
 - b. Be definite and systematic.
3. **ORGANIZE YOUR PRAYING.**
ONE WAY IS ACCORDING TO THE DAYS OF THE WEEK

DAILY. Family / Pastor and his family / Peace of Jerusalem
SUNDAY. Saints (fellow believers since few Christians are prayed for regularly by anyone).
MONDAY. Missionaries. DO YOU HAVE THE WORLD ON YOUR HEART?

240 + Countries/Territories
 7.8 billion people
 2 of 3 have never heard the name
 "Jesus" in a saving sense one time!



TUESDAY. Teachers. 90% of children of evangelical parents are in public schools.
WEDNESDAY. Workmates. White House, Washington D.C. (Governments: all levels)
THURSDAY. Troubled people.
FRIDAY. Friends / Family who are not prayed for daily.
SATURDAY. Sinners / Seekers.
 Master **1 John 5:14-15** before you begin praying for the lost. Believe it!

PRAY FOR THE PERSON BY NAME

1. God's will is for each person to be saved. **2 Peter 3:9, 1 Timothy 2:3,4.**
2. Satan has blinded the lost person's mind. **2 Corinthians 4:4.** Ask God to bind Satan.
3. Pray for conviction. **John 16:8-11.**
4. Pray for a laborer to share the Gospel. **Luke 10:2.**
5. Pray for a decision. **2 Corinthians 6:2.**

Surrender

Close prayer with a fresh commitment of everything in our lives to God and affirm that He has already begun to manifest great victories in answer to our prayers.

session 8

HINDRANCES TO PRAYER

That your prayers be not hindered. 1 Peter 3:7

INTRODUCTION: We again turn to **Psalm 139** as a starting point in our discussion of prayer. "Search me, O God, and see." Is there anything in me that is **HINDERING** God's blessing for me in this life and God using me to bless others? Our desire is for every believer to get a glimpse of his own heart. We are slow to see how our lives hinder our prayers. We need to face **ELEMENTARY FACTS** taught in the Word of God. Most **HINDRANCES** are our own making. Prayer, is a tool only for the child of God who is living as a child of God should.

1. **SIN GRIEVES GOD AND HINDERS THE PRAYERS OF HIS CHILDREN.**

2. **DOUBT/UNBELIEF HINDERS PRAYER.**

Hebrews 11:6 - "But without faith it is impossible to please Him: for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is rewarder of them that diligently seek Him."

3. **Self-will. Self-is the root of all sin**

Pride prevents prayer because prayer in essence is a very humbling admission. **1 Corinthians 4:7**: "What hast that thou didst not receive?"

4. **Impure Motive.** Purity of heart, motive, desires is required.

James 4:3 - "Ye ask and receive not, because you ask amiss that you may consume it to your own lusts." i.e., that ye may spend it in your own pleasures or for your own gratification.

5. **Unlove.** A loving spirit is a condition of believing prayer.

6. **Unforgiving spirit.** If a person harbors an unforgiving spirit, it is almost wasted time to pray until this is resolved. Holding grudges/enmity toward others nullifies and hinders our prayers.

session 9

THE PRAYER CHAPEL

"The greatest work that any of us can do for another, whether young or old, is to teach the soul to draw its water from the wells of God." - F.B. Meyer. SEE PAGE 8.



1. TWENTY - FOUR HOUR PRAYER MINISTRY.
2. 168 PEOPLE NEEDED TO PRAY ONE HOUR EACH WEEK.
IN ADDITION TO A FEW SUBSTITUTES.
3. ROLODEX WITH NAMES OF ALL MEMBERS ON A CARD.
4. PRAY AT LEAST FIFTEEN MINUTES FOR MEMBERS BY NAME.
5. PRAY THE SCRIPTURES ON THE CHECK-IN SHEET.



*I'm glad you were in the seminar!
Let us know the results of what
you have learned in your own prayer
life!
Yours in Calvary love,
J. Gordon Henry
Zechariah 8:21b*