

First Friends Church
“Prayer: H2o For Life”
10-18-09

ONE Challenge: Make disciples - Matthew 28:19

Two Lives: One on One Discipling – 2 Timothy 2:2; Eccl. 4:9

“Disciple” – committed to knowing, loving & following Jesus.

Discipling Equipment: Word, Witness, Worship, Stewardship, Service, **Prayer**, and Discipleship (www.ss.pd)

Vision: *Imagine ONE life restored eternally, growing spiritually and reaching ONE more! Who’s your ONE?*

Question: Why Pray?

- Magical / superstitious thinking, health and wealth, earn God’s favor, bargain with God?

Disciples of Jesus pray to connect with God, His purposes, and His people. TRANSFORMATION!

Prayer is h2o for life...we’ll die without it!

1. Jesus’ example

- a. Jesus prayed publicly (out loud) Matt. 6
- b. Jesus prayed privately – Luke 5:16
- c. Jesus prayed honestly with emotion – Jn. 12:27-28
- d. Jesus prayed constantly to stay connected to his Father. Jn. 5:19

2. Jesus taught us a *pattern*, not a strict “formula.”

Matthew 6:9-13 (Priorities and Petitions)

- a. **Priority of Relationship (Father)** – “*Our Father who art in heaven*” vs. 9
 - i. Restored to the *Father’s* heart.

“*Abba*” Intimate term for Father. Rom.8:15

- ii. Connects us with other Christians – *Our Father...give us...lead us...*
- b. **Priority of Worship** – “*Hallowed by thy name*” vs. 9
 - i. Perspective and Position– God is the Holy Creator, we are his created ones.
- c. **Priority of Mission** – “*thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven*” vs. 10
 - i. Ask in “Jesus’ name” - John 16:23-24
- d. **Petition for Needs** – “*Give us this day our daily bread*” vs. 11
 - i. Ask with faith (trust) - Mt. 21:22
- e. **Petition for Forgiveness** – “*and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors*” vs. 12
 - i. Receiving forgiveness – 1 Jn. 1:9
 - ii. Granting forgiveness - Mt. 6:14-15
- f. **Petition for Deliverance** – “*Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil*” vs. 13
 - i. Rescue (way of escape) – 1 Cor. 10:13

“Amen” (added later) – “*For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory forever*” (vs. 13) KJV

Why Pray? *To connect with God, His purposes, and his people.*

James 5:16 “*The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.*”

Ephes. 6:18 “*And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests.*”

Mark 11:17 “*Is it not written, ‘My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations?’*” (Is. 56:7)

PRAYER TRANSFORMS US!