

# The School of Prayer

## Relationship - Part 6

### October 15, 2023

*“He was praying in a certain place, and when He finished, one of His disciples said to Him, ‘Lord, teach us to pray, just as John also taught his disciples.’” Luke 11:1 (CSB)*

*“Yet He **often withdrew** to deserted places **and prayed.**” Luke 5:16 (CSB)*

**Prayer should be so important to us as Jesus’ disciples because **prayer was something Jesus prioritized.****

**Jesus prayed on purpose.**

**Prayer is an intimate conversation with the one who passionately **loves** and **lives** in you.**

*“Therefore, let us approach **the throne of grace with boldness**, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in time of need.” Hebrews 4:16 (CSB)*

**The goal of prayer is not to get **more from** God, the goal of prayer is to get **more of** God.**

**Prayer is how we go after **the heart of God** so we can have a relationship with **the God of our hearts.****

**Seven Practices on Prayer from Jesus, the Master Teacher:**

**#1 - Keep it Real.**

*“<sup>5</sup>**Whenever** you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites, because they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by people. Truly I tell you, they have their reward. <sup>6</sup>**But when** you pray, go into your private room, shut your door, and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.” Matthew 6:5-6 (CSB)*

**Religion **demands** prayer to be professional, presentable, and for public praise.**

**A Relationship with Jesus moves us to **delight** in prayer being personal, private, and powerful.**

**The secret to prayer is prayer in secret.**

**#2 - Keep it Simple.**

*“<sup>7</sup>When you pray, **don’t babble** like the Gentiles, since they imagine they’ll be heard for their many words. <sup>8</sup>**Don’t be like them, because your Father knows the things you need** before you ask Him.” Matthew 6:7-8 (CSB)*

**#3 - Keep it Worshipful.**

*“Therefore, you should pray like this: **Our Father** in heaven, your **name be honored as holy.**” Matthew 6:9 (CSB)*

**A prayerful life is a worshipful life.**

#### #4 - Keep it Surrendered.

*“Your **kingdom** come. Your **will** be done on earth as it is in heaven.”* Matthew 6:10 (CSB)

When we surrender to God’s kingdom and will, we are requesting that our lives align with God’s kingdom **story**.

Sometimes prayer changes **things**. Most of the time, prayer changes **me**.

#### #5 - Keep it Practical.

*“Give us today our daily bread.”* Matthew 6:11 (CSB)

**“Don’t worry yourself to death, pray yourself to peace.” - Chad Veach**

#### #6 - Keep it Repentant.

*“<sup>12</sup>And **forgive us** our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. <sup>13</sup>And do not bring us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.”* Matthew 6:12-13 (CSB)

#### #7 - Keep it Persistent.

*“<sup>4</sup>**Remain in Me**, and I in you. Just as a branch is unable to produce fruit by itself unless it remains on the vine, neither can you unless you remain in Me. <sup>5</sup>I am the vine; you are the branches. The one who remains in Me and I in him produces much fruit, because **you can do nothing without Me**.”* John 15:4-5 (CSB)

Something changes when prayer is no longer just one more thing in our day, but becomes **the most important thing**.