

INTRO



WHAT IS PRAYER?

A DEEPER LOOK INTO 4 ASPECTS OF PRAYER

MANY TIMES WHEN IT COMES TO PRAYER ,AND THE PRAYER LIFE OF INDIVIDUALS, IT CAN BE VERY INTIMIDATING SIMPLY BECAUSE OF ONE QUESTION; **WHERE DO I START?**

OFTENTIMES, WE FEEL THAT OUR PRAYERS HAVE TO BE AN ELOQUENT, SOPHISTICATED, MYRIAD COLLECTION OF WORDS IN ORDER FOR GOD TO HEAR OUR PRAYERS. IN REALITY, PRAYER AND ONE'S PRAYER LIFE DOES NOT HAVE TO BE AS COMPLICATED AS WE OFTEN MAKE IT OUT TO BE.

THIS 4 WEEK COURSE IS TO HELP US SEE JUST THAT, AND HELP US TO DEVELOP A MORE CONSISTENT, DEEPER PRAYER LIFE.

BY **PASTOR LUKE DEGLEHAUSEN**

WEEK

1

WHAT IS **PRAYER**?

SIMPLY PUT, PRAYER IS A CONVERSATION BETWEEN GOD AND YOURSELF.

WHEN IT COMES TO PRAYER, IT IS NOT ABOUT THE WORDS YOU USE, BUT THE SINCERITY BEHIND YOUR WORDS

“AND WHEN YOU **PRAY**, DO NOT BE LIKE THE HYPOCRITES, FOR THEY LOVE TO **PRAY** STANDING IN THE SYNAGOGUES AND ON THE STREET CORNERS TO BE SEEN BY OTHERS. TRULY I TELL YOU, THEY HAVE RECEIVED THEIR REWARD IN FULL. BUT WHEN YOU **PRAY**, GO INTO YOUR ROOM, CLOSE THE DOOR AND **PRAY** TO YOUR FATHER, WHO IS UNSEEN. THEN YOUR FATHER, WHO SEES WHAT IS DONE IN SECRET, WILL REWARD YOU.”

MATTHEW 6:5-6

PRAYER CAN COME IN ALL KINDS OF DIFFERENT FORMS: WORDS, SONG, ART. PRAYER IS COMMUNICATING WITH GOD.

WHEN IT COMES TO PRAYER...
REMEMBER THE ACRONYM: **P.R.A.Y.**

PRAISE

☐ LOOK UP PSALM 1:9

REPENT

☐ LOOK UP 1 JOHN 1:9

ASK

☐ LOOK UP JOHN 14:13-14

YIELD

☐ LOOK UP ROMANS 12:12

THERE ARE 4 DIFFERENT MAIN KINDS OF PRAYERS THAT WE ARE GOING TO EXPLORE OVER THE NEXT 4 WEEKS. THEY ARE AS FOLLOWS: ADORATION, CONFESSION, THANKSGIVING, AND SUPPLICATION.

ad·o·ra·tion/adəˈrāʃən

noun

1. deep love and respect.
2. worship; veneration.

WHEN WE USE **ADORATION** AS WE PRAY WE ARE PRAISING GOD FOR HIS GOODNESS.

THERE ARE MANY EXAMPLES OF **ADORATION** FOUND IN THE BOOK OF PSALMS.

OFTENTIMES, PRAYERS OF **ADORATION** ACKNOWLEDGE THAT OUR SOLE DEPENDENCE IS ON THE LORD.

HERE ARE SOME EXAMPLES OF **ADORATION** FOUND IN SCRIPTURE:

PSALM 111 - PSALM 116 - PSALM 31:23 - 1 CHRONICLES 16:29

QUESTION:

WHY DO YOU THINK IT'S IMPORTANT TO HAVE PRAYERS OF **ADORATION** IN OUR LIFE?

CHALLENGE:

TAKE A MOMENT WITH A PARTNER OR IN YOUR SMALL GROUP TO SAY PRAYERS OF **ADORATION** OUT LOUD TO GOD.

A PRAYER OF **CONFESSION** SEARCHES ONES HEART.
WE ARE COMING BEFORE GOD TO PRESENT
WHERE WE HAVE FALLEN SHORT.

READ ROMANS 3:23

THIS SCRIPTURE STATES THAT WE HAVE ALL SINNED AND LIVE IN A CONTINUAL STATE OF SIN, THEREFORE, WE SHOULD ALWAYS HAVE A PRAYER OF **CONFESSION** ON OUR HEARTS.

SOME EXAMPLES OF CONFESSIONAL PRAYER
IN SCRIPTURE CAN BE FOUND HERE:
JAMES 5:16 - PROVERBS 28:13 - PSALM 32:3-5

QUESTION:

IN A CULTURE THAT CONTINUALLY TELLS US WE NEED TO COVER UP OUR MISTAKES AND PRETEND TO BE SOMEONE WE ARE NOT, WHY DO YOU THINK IT IS IMPORTANT TO CONFESS OUR SINS TO GOD THROUGH PRAYER?

CHALLENGE:

FIND A SPOT ALONE IN THE ROOM. TAKE SOME TIME TO ASK GOD TO REVEAL IN YOUR HEART THE SIN YOU NEED TO REPENT OF AND ASK FORGIVENESS FOR. SAY/WRITE A PRAYER OF CONFESSION TO GOD.

thanksgiving/THaNGksGiviNG*noun*

1. the expression of gratitude, especially to God.

A PRAYER OF **THANKSGIVING** IS SIMILAR TO A PRAYER OF ADORATION, BUT IT RECOGNIZES THE GOOD THINGS THAT GOD HAS PLACED IN YOUR LIFE AND GIVEN YOU & THANKS HIM FOR THEM.

THE CHALLENGING PART OF THIS IS TO REMEMBER TO LOOK FOR WAYS THAT GOD HAS BLESSED YOUR LIFE, EVEN WHEN THINGS ARE NOT GOING WELL.

BIG OR SMALL, GOD SHOWERS HIS CHILDREN WITH BLESSINGS THAT WE GET TO BE THANKFUL FOR.

HERE ARE SOME EXAMPLES OF **THANKSGIVING** FOUND IN SCRIPTURE:

**1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-18 - COLOSSIANS 2:6-7
JAMES 1:17 & 1 CHRONICLES 16:34**

QUESTION:

WHEN GOD HAS BLESSED US WITH SO MUCH, WHY IS IT SO EASY TO FOCUS ON THE THINGS WE DON'T HAVE OR THE THINGS WE WANT FROM GOD?

CHALLENGE:

SHARE WITH SOMEONE 3 THINGS THAT YOU ARE THANKFUL FOR & THAT GOD HAS BLESSED YOU WITH. AFTER YOU SHARE, PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER AND THANK GOD FOR EVERYTHING HE HAS GIVEN YOU.

supplication/səpləˈkɑːʃ(ə)n/*noun*

the action of asking or begging for something earnestly or humbly.

A PRAYER OF **SUPPLICATION** IS A PRAYER THAT LIFTS UP REQUESTS TO GOD.

THERE ARE **2 DIFFERENT KINDS** OF SUPPLICATION:
PETITIONS - REQUESTS WE MAKE FOR OURSELVES
INTERCESSIONS - REQUEST ON BEHALF OF OTHERS

IT IS EASY TO PRAY FOR ALL OUR NEEDS, BUT IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR THE NEEDS OF OTHERS AS WELL

WITH PRAYERS OF SUPPLICATION, IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER THAT GOD'S ANSWERS TO OUR PRAYERS MAY NOT ALWAYS LINE UP WITH WHAT WE WANTED THE ANSWERS TO BE.

HERE ARE SOME EXAMPLES OF **SUPPLICATION** FOUND IN SCRIPTURE
PHILIPPIANS 4:6-7 - LUKE 11:3 - MATTHEW 7:7-11

QUESTION:

IF GOD LOVES US AND WANTS THE BEST FOR US, WHY DO YOU THINK GOD'S ANSWER TO OUR PRAYERS DOES NOT ALWAYS LINE UP WITH THE ANSWERS WE WANTED?

CHALLENGE:

FIND SOMEONE TO SHARE YOUR PRAYER REQUESTS WITH. TAKE TIME TO PRAY TOGETHER OUT LOUD FOR YOUR PERSONAL REQUESTS (PETITIONS) AND THE REQUEST OF THE ONE ANOTHER (SUPPLICATION).

PRAYER/prer/

noun

1. a solemn request for help or expression of thanks addressed to God

WHAT IS PRAYER?

PRAISE (PSALM 1:9)

REPENT (1 JOHN 1:9)

ASK (JOHN 14:13-14)

YIELD (ROMANS 12:2)

CHALLENGE:

WE HAVE SPENT THE LAST FOUR WEEKS LOOKING AT THE IMPORTANCE OF PRAYER IN OUR LIVES. TAKE SOME TIME TO PRAY TOGETHER WITH SOMEONE. TRY TO INCORPORATE THESE 4 ASPECTS OF PRAYER THAT WE HAVE SPENT TIME STUDYING AND LEARNING ABOUT.

THERE ARE **4** MAIN TYPES OF **PRAYER**
FOUND IN SCRIPTURE:

ADORATION - CONFESSION - THANKSGIVING - SUPPLICATION

THESE ARE PERFECTLY DEMONSTRATED IN JESUS' PRAYER IN **MATTHEW 6:9-13**. LOOK AT THIS **PRAYER** OF JESUS AND PICK OUT WHERE ALL **4 TYPES** OF **PRAYER** CAN BE FOUND IN THESE 5 VERSES:

“THIS, THEN, IS HOW YOU SHOULD PRAY:

**“OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN,
HALLOWED BE YOUR NAME,
YOUR KINGDOM COME,
YOUR WILL BE DONE,
ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN.**

GIVE US TODAY OUR DAILY BREAD.

**AND FORGIVE US OUR DEBTS,
AS WE ALSO HAVE FORGIVEN OUR DEBTORS.
AND LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION.
BUT DELIVER US FROM THE EVIL ONE.”**

MATTHEW 6:9-13

(ADORATION, CONFESSION, SUPPLICATION)

QUESTION:

WHY DOESN'T THERE SEEM TO BE ANY MENTION OF THANKSGIVING IN THE LORD'S PRAYER?
(SEE THESSALONIANS 5:16-18)