

CONFORMING PRAYER

James 1.19-26 // January 9, 2022

WRONG WAY TO PRAY

Psalms 139.23, 24

Most people would say that at some point from time to time, they pray. Even 30% of atheists say they pray. But what most people consider to be “prayer” may have some *elements* you may find in prayer, but these prayers are not what the bible describes as true, biblical prayer.

Prayer is continuing a conversation that God has started through His Word and His grace, which eventually becomes a full encounter with Him.

-J.I. Packer

PRAYER IS BETTER THAN THAT

**Prayer is finding the way to God and speaking with Him, whether your heart is empty or full.
No one can do that by himself.
We need Jesus Christ to do that.**

-Bonhoeffer

Jeremiah 17.7, 8 // James 3.5-18

A MODEL FOR PRAYER

**You worship your way into sin,
so you must worship your way out of sin.**

Jesus gives us a model for prayer that helps us to put our focus and dependency and response upon God, rather than ourselves. It refocuses our hearts and our needs towards Christ.

Preach the Gospel to Yourself (or “Praise”): John Calvin said, “The Word of God is not received as if it flits about in the top of the brain, but when it takes root in the depth of the heart.” We must not settle for an informed mind without an engaged heart.

Repent: Confess your sin to God as sin against Him. Confess and acknowledge the grievous ways within your heart that He may even reveal to you.

Ask: Ask God for His perspective and wisdom. It is rarely our circumstances that need to change, but our hearts that need to change.

Yield with Thanksgiving: If you can’t say, “Your will be done,” chances are you have what Augustine called “disordered love.” Some kind of idol in your heart.

NOTES:

Helpful Ways to Meditate on Scripture

- **Personalize it:** Read it with yourself in mind, even inserting your name.
- **Paraphrase It:** Restate the text in your own words.
- **Pronounce It:** Re-read it, emphasizing a different word each time.
- Praying out loud keeps you focused
- Getting awake. Take a shower, drink some coffee, play some background music.
- Starting small. Five minutes per day will help develop a dependent appetite.
- Being able to not be interrupted.
- Learning to pray the Scriptures.

Ask these questions as you read:

- What do you learn about God and His character?
- What do you learn about human nature, character, and behavior?
- What do you learn about Christ and His salvation?
- What do you learn about life in the body of Christ?

Martin Luther encourages us to ask these questions as we go through the Word:

- Is There an Example to Follow?
- Is There a Command to Obey?
- Is There an Error to Avoid?
- Is There a Sin to Forsake?
- Is There a Promise to Claim?
- Is There a New Thought About God?

Announcement

Year-end Giving Statements will be emailed out by the end of the month. If you would prefer to receive a mailed copy please contact Sherry Henry: sherry@lifemission.tv.

This Week’s Scripture to Memorize:

Psalms 9:10

And those who know your name put their trust in you, for you, O Lord, have not forsaken those who seek you.

ARE YOU NEW HERE?

WELCOME TO LIFE MISSION!

We’d love for you to **fill out a Connection Card** so we can welcome you and answer any questions you may have. You can drop it in the offering basket during the service or take it to one of our teammates at the **Connection Booth** outside. Feel free to grab some coffee and snacks in the courtyard and hang out. We hope you’ll **join us next Sunday** and consider making us your church family.

WHAT ABOUT THE KIDS?

Our childrens’ ministry, which we call **Kids on Mission**, has classes for **newborns - 5th grade**. We have a great team of volunteers who have all been screened with background checks for extra security. Each week your child will get to **worship** with their class, followed by an **age-appropriate lesson** that points them towards Jesus and helps root them in the Word of God.

Visit our website to read more about the vision of Kids on Mission and a walkthrough of our curriculum. If you have any questions, email **Amber Willis at amber@lifemission.tv**

JUNIOR HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL

Our **6th - 8th graders** begin each Sunday by **worshipping with the adults** and then head to their classroom with their teacher and classmates for the rest of service. Visit our website to read more about our junior high ministry and a walkthrough of our curriculum.

Our **9th-12th graders stay in the service** with the adults because we believe that it is crucial for them to not “graduate the faith” when they graduate high school.

For more information about our Junior High & High School ministries, email **Tyler Willis at tyler@lifemission.tv**.

Contact Us

Jobey McGinty

Pastor, Preaching & Vision
jobey@lifemission.tv

Casey Barnes

Pastor, Community & Prayer
casey@lifemission.tv

Tyler Willis

Pastor, Student Ministries
tyler@lifemission.tv

Matt Piro

Worship Leader
matt@lifemission.tv

Amber Willis

Kids on Mission
amber@lifemission.tv

Brian Galloway

Administration
brian@lifemission.tv

Sherry Henry

Finances
sherry@lifemission.tv

CONNECT WITH LMC



Point your smart
phone camera at
the QR Code to
access a virtual
Connection Card

MAILING ADDRESS:

Life Mission Church
420 Twin Oaks Valley Rd., #908
San Marcos, CA 92079

COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK

Before group starts, who can share the **Memory Verse**?

Read **James 1.19-26**. What stands out in this passage and from the sermon on Sunday?

Preaching the Gospel to Yourself

What is the importance of praying and preaching God's Word and promises to your own heart? Why should that always be the very first starting point of our prayers, and how would it change how we pray?

Your Life Mission

When our prayers are aimed in a way to result in worship, it changes how we interact in life and what we focus on. It gives us a desire for God's glory to be known. What relationships in your life would you like prayer for, maybe even that you are a little fearful of when it comes to sharing the Gospel? How does the excitement of Heaven motivate you?

End the evening in a time of prayer, praying through the theme of the night using the **P.R.A.Y.** model with your group. Pray for these people you have mentioned and for your heart and plan as you pursue them in love.

- **Preaching the Gospel to Yourself** (Matthew 6.9, 10)
 - Always begin your time of prayer focusing on God's goodness, who He is, and what He has done for us. Pray truths from this week's text.
- **Repent and Confess** (Matthew 6.12)
 - Real repentance begins where blame-shifting stops. Your circumstances don't need to change, your heart needs to change. Confess any particular sin that prevents you from walking out what God calls us to in the text, or any other particular sin you are wanting to fight. Ask Him to help you have strength to repent and run towards Him.
- **Ask for Provision** (Matthew 6.11-13)
 - Ask God for new perspective and for the things that you need. Once our hearts are fixed on Him, we can ask Him to help us with our needs. When your heart is begin filled with the Gospel first, your asking will be far more in line with God's desires and will. Ask Him to work in the relationships in your life that you are hoping to share God's love with.
- **Yield with Thanksgiving** (Matthew 6.10)
 - End your prayer by giving God thanks for His faithfulness and ask Him to help you trust and yield to His work and ways.



LIFE MISSION

CHURCH

MAKING DISCIPLES WHO MAKE DISCIPLES LOCALLY AND GLOBALLY,
WHO ARE SAVED, EQUIPPED, AND SENT BY THE GOSPEL.

SEARCH KNOW LEAD ME

HOW THE WORD OF GOD, PRAYER, AND GOSPEL COMMUNITY
SEARCHES AND RESCUES OUR IDENTITY

CONFORMING PRAYER

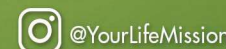
James 1.19-26 // January 9, 2022

SUNDAYS AT 10AM

Life Mission Church Meets at Classical Academy High School
207 E Pennsylvania Ave, Escondido 92025

GET TO KNOW MORE ABOUT US ONLINE

LIFEMISSIONCHURCH.COM



@YourLifeMission



/LifeMissionChurch



/LifeMissionTV



@YourLifeMission