

THE BATTLE OF PRAYER

Romans 8.13 // Hebrews 3.12-15, 10.24, 25

THE HARDEST PURSUIT OF THE CHRISTIAN

Romans 15.30 // Colossians 4.12

As we start seeing sin in our life for what it really is, we see we are much worse off than what we previously thought; but we'll also start seeing that God is much more gracious, merciful, and kind than we previously thought.

Paul's "Downward" Yet "Godward" Spiral

- 1 Corinthians 15.9, 55 A.D.: "I am least of all the Apostles."
- Ephesians 3.8, 60 A.D.: "I am least of all the saints."
- 1 Timothy 1.15, 63 A.D.: "I am chief of sinners."

Luke 7.47 // Romans 8.13-17

God motivates us *from* acceptance, not toward it.

J.D. Greear, from "Gospel"

HOW TO PRAY

When killing sin, prayer must not be our asking God to our will, but us aligning ourselves with God's will.

But how does that happen?

1.) **The real you must come to God.** Come with your wandering mind, with your insufficiencies and weaknesses. Depend on Him as a Father. Be childlike in your trust and interaction with Him, believing in your Father's promises and power.

When you pray it is better that your heart be without words than your words without heart.

-John Bunyan

2.) **You must know the will of God.** No problem, right? But the truth is, to pray "in Jesus' Name" means we have to know what God's will is. Prayer keeps our eyes open.

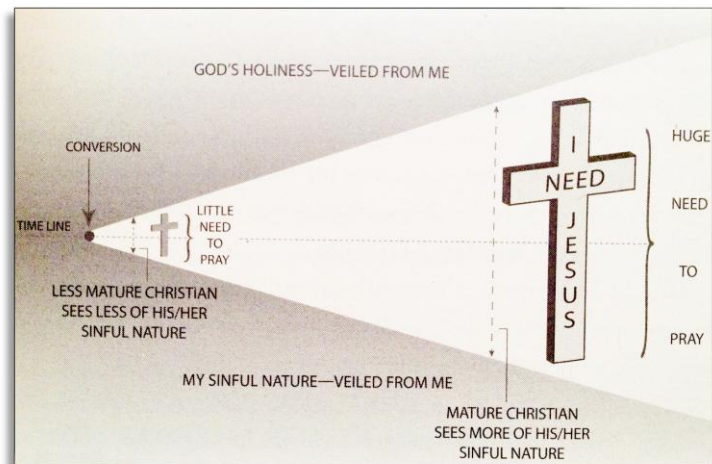
John 15.1-11

If you are immersed in the mind of God, will you not then *pray* the will of God?

Matthew 11.28-30



NOTES:



WANT TO GET CONNECTED?

• JOIN A COMMUNITY GROUP!

If you want to get connected to a group of people near your neighborhood, let us know by filling out the **Connection Card** or visiting the **Connection Booth** in the Atrium!

• JOIN A MINISTRY TEAM!

We would love to have you come serve our community with us. Let us know on our **Connection Card** that you want to help!

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

SERMON CDs AVAILABLE

If you would like a copy of the sermon from today's service, go to the sound booth in the back right after service. They will make one just for you!

Also, make sure to not just watch, but also subscribe to our **YouTube Channel**, which is at [youtube.com/LifeMissionTV](https://www.youtube.com/LifeMissionTV). You will get notified AS SOON as our sermons and short videos go up online!

KIDS ON MISSION

Please log on to check out www.lifemissionchurch.com and click "Kids" at the top to read more about the vision and plan we have for our kids, including Pastor Jobey's heart and his walk through of our curriculum.

Also, the daily devotional book, **Long Story Short**, is available in the Atrium to purchase.



SAVE.

Jesus was sent to save. We have been saved to be sent. We are sent into our community to share the Good News that Christ came to save us, and we hope to see many who find new life.

EQUIP.

We want to equip those very people in the Word so that they can continue to grow as disciples of Christ. From our preschool to our adults, our passion is to see everyone equipped in the Gospel to live a life of freedom and joy.

SEND.

Lastly, we then want to see those equipped people sent into their community and world. From schools and playgrounds, to families and work places, we want to see people who are spiritual leaders in their life, showing people the truth of Christ's Good News.

CONTACT US:

Jobey McGinty // Lead Pastor
jobey@lifemission.tv

Eric Price // Community and Connection
eric@lifemission.tv

Pete Christopher // Technical Arts
pete@lifemission.tv

Matt Piro // Worship Leader
matt@lifemission.tv

Audra Napolitano // Kids on Mission
audra@lifemission.tv

Kim Roberson // Administration
kim@lifemission.tv

Laurie Garcia // Administration
laurie@lifemission.tv

Life Mission Church

PO Box 908, San Marcos ,CA 92079
www.LifeMissionChurch.com
Facebook.com/LifeMissionChurch
Twitter: @YourLifeMission
YouTube.com/LifeMissionTV

COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK

What stuck out to you the most or was the most impactful from the message on Sunday? _____

How would you describe your prayer life? _____

If it's weak, why do you think it is? If it's strong, how did you get to that point?

Read **Romans 8.13-17**. Why is it some important for Paul to bring up adoption when it relates to killing sin? _____

How does sonship play into how effective our prayer life is/can be? _____

Read **Ephesians 1.3-14**. What was the main purpose of our adoption? _____

God's glory is always His main goal. What do you think brings more glory to God: God berating people who fail even though He has already forgiven them, or God loving people unconditionally even though they continually fail? _____

The answer is obvious, but when we feel the distance, guilt, and shame of our sin that keeps us from prayer and keeps us from being with Him, we need to ask ourselves, "do I really believe God is glorified by shaming me even after I've been forgiven and cleansed?" God would not be glorified by that; if He did that, He should be despised as a treacherous and unjust God who forgives, but then still punishes. Read **Matthew 11.28-30**. What does Jesus invite us to do with anything that weighs us down, including the guilt and shame of our sin? _____

To continue to carry guilt is to say, "I don't believe the Gospel; I don't believe that Jesus really forgave me and that I can really lay down my burden and find rest in Christ. I need to be punished, because Jesus' punishment wasn't enough." Considering this, what solution, then, is there for when we are heavy laden with guilt and shame over our sin? _____

Only by knowing the truth, specifically of our cleansing and adoption, can we truly be free. Now look at the picture from the sermon notes. When you become more aware of your sin *as well as* the bigness of God's grace and truth of your adoption, what *should* occur in your prayer life? _____

If your prayer life is suffering, start with small prayers through the day. Quick "thank You, Lord, for adopting me" type prayers. Simply, short, Gospel prayers. Then, add in short, simple prayers for family and friends. Try to get in a habit of having quick conversations with your Abba, your Dad, throughout the day.