

PRAIVING THE LORD'S WILL

Matthew Chapter 6.5-13, 7.7-11

HOW TO PRAY

James 5.16 // Matthew 6.5-13, 7.7-11

- **Preach the Gospel to Yourself:** Bring to mind the promises of God and Gospel truths that will remind you of God's ultimate plan and purpose. **vs. 9, 10**
- **Repent:** Acknowledge where you've been doubting or believing lies and being in sin; remember His forgiveness and your adoption as you run to Him. **vs. 12**
- **Ask:** Ask God for new perspective and for the things you need. You'll notice after doing the above two, your requests will be different than before. **vs. 11**
- **Yield with Thanksgiving:** Surrender to God's will and ways, that you would not do your will as you are tempted to, but to do His. **vs. 13 (and back to 9, 10)**

START WITH THE GOSPEL

**The cross is not an event to leave, nor a starting line,
but it is the path itself.**

-Kyle Strobel

Romans 10.17

**If prayer is a walkie-talkie,
the Word tells us what channel that God is on.**

**Prevailing prayer is almost an impossibility where there is neglect of
the study of the Word of God...the prayer that is born of meditation
upon the Word of God is the prayer that soars upward most easily
God's listening ear.**

Psalms 37.4 // Matthew 6.33

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

When we are in the Word, we see God's desires, and the power of the Word changes us. Our prayers keep us connected to those desires of God's as we meditate on them and pray for them. What do you pray for most? Your desires? Your will? Your emotions? Your wants? Or to have His?

KEEP ASKING, SEEKING, AND KNOCKING

Luke 18.1-8



NOTES:

Recommended Resources

Radical by David Platt

A great book on living the life of real, radical discipleship. Currently, our Steering Team, Community Group Leaders, and

The Gospel Transformation Bible

Published by Crossway, this bible is not *so much* a study bible, but a bible with commentary to help you see the bigger picture of Christ and His Gospel in and through all the Scriptures

ARE YOU NEW HERE?

WELCOME TO LIFE MISSION CHURCH!

We're so glad you joined us today! We'd LOVE for you to **fill out the green Connection Card** on your seat to let us know you were here today. You can drop it in the offering at the end of service or take it to one of our **teammates in a Green Shirt** at the **Connection Booth** outside - we'd love to give you some welcome information.

Feel free to **grab some food or coffee** out in the courtyard and hang out. We hope you'll **join us next Sunday** and consider making us your church family.

SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

If you've ever taken your child to one of our Kids on Mission classes, or enjoyed a cup of coffee after service, chances are there was a **faithful servant** behind each of those examples. By giving your time and talent on Sundays, you're **an essential part** of helping others meet Jesus, and serving is one of the **most fun & rewarding ways we experience community** with our church family! Fill out a connection card or visit the **Connection Booth** to learn about the serving opportunities available today.

COMMUNITY GROUPS

The best way to **get connected** in the church is by joining one of our **Community Groups!** You'll **build friendships**, be encouraged, and take the sermon deeper into your heart every week. **Sign up for a Group** on a **Connection Card** or visit the **Connection Booth**. You won't regret it!

GIVING

Gospel-centered generosity should never be fueled by obligation or guilt; it should be motivated by a heart of thankfulness because of the sacrificial love God has already shown us. If you call Life Mission your Home, you can place your gift in the offering baskets at the end of service, give online at lifemissionchurch.com/blog/give or mail a check to our PO Box. **Thank you so much for your love & support!**

KIDS ON MISSION

Our Kids are incredibly important to us! The Kids on Mission ministry has classrooms for **newborns - 6th grade** & is passionately overseen by **Audra Napolitano**. Please Visit lifemissionchurch.com/blog/kids to read more about the vision and plan we have for our kids, including Pastor Jobey's heart and his walkthrough of our curriculum.

JUNIOR HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Our Junior High students (**7th & 8th graders**) worship with the adults, and then head to their class for the rest of service. We challenge them to **dig deeper into what they learned on Sunday** throughout the week.

Our **High School students** stay in the adult service because we believe that it is critical for them to not "graduate the faith" when they graduate school. For questions on our student ministries, contact **Casey Barnes** at hbarnes5@yahoo.com or **John Hawthorne** at hawthorne-john@hotmail.com

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.

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COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK

Read Matthew 6.5-13, 7.7-11. What stuck out to you the most in these verses or was the most impactful from the message on Sunday? _____

Last week, in our Community Groups we talked about prayer. How has your prayer life been since our last meeting? Has it changed? Why or why not?

When it comes to the main four elements of the Lord's Prayer (**Matthew 6.5-15**, Praise/Praising the Gospel to Yourself, Repentance, Asking, and Yielding with Thanks), which do you normally start your prayers with? Does it depend on what you are praying for? _____

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?

How does simply starting with recounting the truths and promises of God change the way you go to God in prayer? How does starting your prayers with the reminder of the Gospel change what you ask for? Or how you repent? _____

Do you have a plan or practice to memorize Scripture? Memorizing Scripture is one of the absolute best ways to deepen your prayer life, and especially to really beginning to pray for God's will, not yours. One app that is great is called **Fighter Verses**, and there are others as well. Storing God's Word in our heart and learning how to apply His promises in our prayers will keep you more readily walking with the Spirit in the freedom of your adoption.

Who in your life do you, or can you, regularly "**Fight Club**" with? Who can you even send a quick text or email to confess some sin or struggle and ask for prayer?

Is it possible to set up a regular meeting time with them in order to encourage and fight for each other in the Gospel? If so, do it soon and get in that habit! Start challenging your friends and family to make God's Name holy and see His Kingdom come and will accomplished in all nations through each other's' lives. Pray for a heart for the nations, that God would save people from every tongue, tribe, and nation, since that is exactly what He desires, and pray that He would lead you to ways that *you* can be a part of the Great Commission. 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.