



It's Time to Pray

INTRODUCTION:

The last few months we have focused on a theme of prayer. God has Invited us to Ask. In the sermon this Sunday, Pastor Michael Miller focused on how it's time to pray with purpose, passion, and productively without ceasing, as well as the importance of setting aside time devoted to prayer. We can pray intentionally for God to work in our own lives, as well as to intercede for others. Regardless of where we are in our Christian walk, no matter the circumstance we face, God wants us to pray with commitment and devotion. He will be faithful as we seek Him and as we do, God will receive the glory in our asking!

READ: Colossians 1:9-14 / Ephesians 3:14-21

DISCUSSION:

1. How would you describe your own journey with prayer? How would you describe your prayer life over the last two months going through the Invited to Ask series?
2. Take a moment to reflect on a time of prayer that was particularly powerful or meaningful. Share what you prayed for and why it made an impact.
3. What does "pray without ceasing" mean? What does it look like practically to pray without ceasing?
4. Read Ephesians 6:18. What does the verse say about praying for others?
 - a. Why is this important?
 - b. For what reasons were Paul praying for the Colossians?
5. In what ways do believers try to determine the will of God for their lives? Which ways are right / wrong?
6. Why do many believers lack spiritual fruit? Why do some stop producing fruit?
7. How can we know God more fully? What are some of the obstacles to this goal?
8. Why do believers lack joy in endurance? How can patience and longsuffering be cultivated in our life?
9. How can praying through Scripture impact our prayer life?
10. Discuss the below statement from the conclusion of the message and answer these questions:
 - a. Personally, what tends to crowd out prayer in your life?
 - b. What can we do to guard against distractions?
 - c. What can we do practically to increase our devotion to prayer?

The time required to pray will feel like a burden to pray until the burden to pray becomes burden enough that the time it takes is time well spent.

MAKE IT SO: Use the Scripture memory this week to increase your devotion to prayer and begin implementing the Colossians 1:9-14 prayer outline for those you want to regularly pray for!

READING LIST: **Monday:** Ephesians 3:14-15 / **Tuesday:** Ephesians 3:16-17a / **Wednesday:** Ephesians 3:17b – 19 / **Thursday:** Ephesians 3: 20-21 / **Friday:** Ephesians 6:18 / **Saturday:** Philippians 1:9
Sunday: 1 Thessalonians 5:17