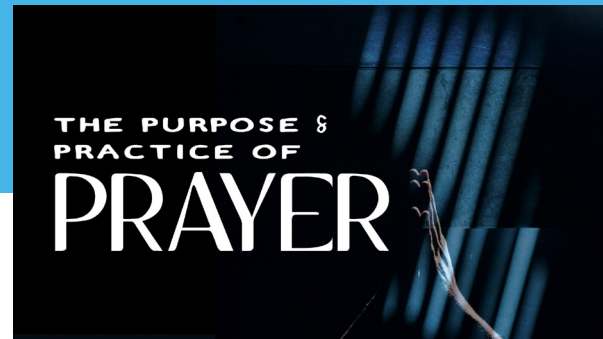


Discussion Questions

November 26, 2023



Practicing Prayer: Praying For One Another

1. Share a time when someone prayed for you or you prayed for someone else, and it had a significant impact.

2. Share what are the primary things you usually pray about when praying for others?

3. Read the following 4 prayers of Paul for the body of Christ. (or just 2-3 if time is short) Summarize what are the main things Paul is praying for others. If you have time, split the group into 4 parts and have each one summarize and share with the group.

Ephesians 1:15-18

Ephesians 3:16-19

Philippians 1:3-4,9-11

Colossians 1:3-4,9-12

- In what ways Paul's prayer is different from how we normally pray for one another? What can we learn from how he prays?
- Discuss Paul's emphasis on the Spirit's empowering believers in His prayers. Why is this so central to Paul?

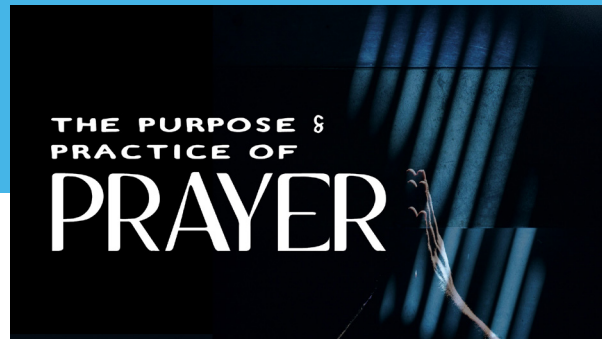
4. What stands out to you the most of the way Paul prays?

5. How we can integrate this way of praying as we seek to pray for one another?

6. Take some time and pair up and pray for one another. Ask what specific things can be prayed for and pray for that, but also integrate Paul's way of praying as well.

Prayer Practice

November 26, 2023



Praying For One Another

- Take 10-20 minutes and read through each of the 4 prayers of Paul for the church listed below. Write down the things Paul prays for the people in that prayer in the space provided. You can find the full text of each passage on the back side of this paper.

Ephesians 1:15-18

Ephesians 3:16-19

Philippians 1:3-4,9-11

Colossians 1:3-4,9-12

Summarize into 4-6 points the main things Paul prays for in these prayers.

- A few times this week, pray for specific followers of Jesus around you. Ask the Lord who you should pray for and lift up in prayer whoever comes to mind, taking into consideration the circumstances you are aware they are facing, and then use this summary of prayer points to pray over them.
- At least twice this week, seek to pray for someone while you are with them.
 - When praying for someone you are present with, first ask them if there is anything specific you can be praying for.
 - Then take a few seconds and quietly ask the Holy Spirit to lead you as you pray. Listen to see if there is any direction He gives you.
 - Start with gratitude for what they are doing well
 - Pray for whatever it is they have shared if they mentioned something specific.
 - Then pray in whatever way the Spirit leads you.
 - Pray in some of the same ways that Paul prayed.
 - That they would be empowered by the Spirit
 - Grow in the knowledge of God and how amazing God's love towards them is.
 - Be eternally minded
 - Practically live and love like Jesus

Ephesians 1:15-18

For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people,

Ephesians 3:16-19

I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

Philippians 1:3-4,9-11

Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God. Whenever I pray, I make my requests for all of you with joy...I pray that your love will overflow more and more, and that you will keep on growing in knowledge and understanding. For I want you to understand what really matters, so that you may live pure and blameless lives until the day of Christ's return. May you always be filled with the fruit of your salvation - the righteous character produced in your life by Jesus Christ - for this will bring much glory and praise to God.

Colossians 1:3-4,9-12

We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all God's people - We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives, so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and giving joyful thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of his holy people in the kingdom of light.

11.26.23

Practicing Prayer: Praying For One Another

James 5:14-16 (NASB95)

Is anyone among you sick? Then he must call for the elders of the church and they are to pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; and the prayer offered in faith will restore the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up, and if he has committed sins, they will be forgiven him. Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another so that you may be healed. The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much.

Prayer Practices:

Practicing the Presence of God

The Lord's Prayer

Psalm 23 - Psalm of the Shepherd

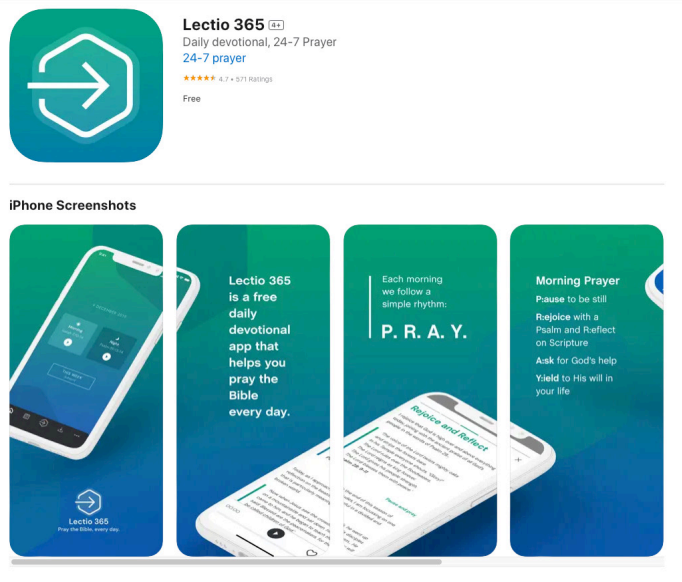
Lectio Divina

Prayer of Examen

Praying with our Imagination

Which of these practices have you found the most valuable and why?

Lectio 365 App



Matthew 6:9-13

OUR Father in heaven...Give **US** today **OUR** daily bread. And forgive **US OUR** debts, as we also have forgiven **OUR** debtors. And do not bring **US** into temptation, but deliver **US** from the evil one.

James 5:16 (NASB95)

Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and **pray for one another** so that you may be healed. The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much.

Galatians 6:2 (NIV)

Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

Philippians 1:3-4 (NLT)

Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God. Whenever I pray, I make my requests for all of you with joy,

Philippians 1:7,8 (NLT)

So it is right that I should feel as I do about all of you, for you have a special place in my heart... God knows how much I love you and long for you with the tender compassion of Christ Jesus.

Philippians 1:9-11 (NLT)

I pray that your love will overflow more and more, and that you will keep on growing in knowledge and understanding. For I want you to understand what really matters, so that you may live pure and blameless lives until the day of Christ's return. May you always be filled with the fruit of your salvation—the righteous character produced in your life by Jesus Christ - for this will bring much glory and praise to God.

What Does Paul pray for them?

- Thanks God for what they are doing well
- Their Love would continue to abound
- They would grow in knowledge and discernment
- They would live pure and blameless lives
- They would bear the fruit of Christ's righteous life. (Live & love like Jesus)

Ephesians 6:18-20 (NLT)

*Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and **be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere.***

Ephesians 1:15-8 (NIV)

For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people,

What does Paul pray for:

- Thanks God for what they are doing well
- The Spirit would give them Wisdom and knowledge of God
- The Spirit would help them see with HIS eyes the Hope they have in Christ
- And how incredibly glorious their inheritance is in Christ

Ephesians 3:16-19 (NIV)

I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge - that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

What does Paul pray for them?

- They would be strengthened and empowered by the Holy Spirit
- They would be rooted and grounded in God's love
- They would have power to grasp just how incredibly amazing God's love is
- They would be filled with the fullness of God

Colossians 1:3-6,9 (NIV)

We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all God's people - the faith and love that spring from the hope stored up for you in heaven and about which you have already heard in the true message of the gospel that has come to you... For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you.

Colossians 1:9b-12 (NIV)

We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives, so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and giving joyful thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of his holy people in the kingdom of light.

What Does Paul pray for them?

- Thanks God for what they are doing well
- The Spirit would fill them with His Knowledge & Wisdom & understanding
 Why? So they will live a life worthy of Jesus
- They would bear fruit in all their works
- Grow in knowledge of God and be strengthened with His power
- They would have great endurance and patience
- And be filled with gratitude and joy to share in His inheritance

Summary:

Paul Thanks God for what they are doing well

And prays that they would...

- Be empowered by the Spirit
- Grow in Knowledge of God and how amazing God's love towards them is.
- Be eternally minded
- Practically live and love like Jesus

Ephesians 6:18 (NLT)

Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere.