

## A Praying Life: Connecting with God in a Distracted World

Week 1: March 20 – March 26

Chapters 12-13



“A praying life opens itself to an infinite, searching God.”

Priscilla Shirer says of prayer on 12.22.21 as she speaks a message entitled **God Said**, “God says pray! Not like a prayer a day to keep the devil away. Not like a prayer over your meal, just cuz that’s what your mama did and your grandma did and that’s what you’re supposed to do. Not something quick and casual. But fervent, prioritized prayer. You can’t have victory if you don’t pray. Prayer is the key that unlocks the resources in heaven so they can be unleashed on planet earth. Prayer is the key that He has given you to get all the good stuff down here. I don’t know about you but I don’t want to wait to get to heaven to experience all that God has for me. Any bits of heaven He plans to give me on earth, I want it right now! Prayer accesses the bits of heaven He plans to give you now! Prayer is what pushes the kingdom of darkness back! That’s why Jesus said, ‘My house shall be called, Not a house of good preaching, Not a house of good singing, Not a house of great spotlights and production, Not a house of cafes, I hope you have all of that, enjoy it! But Jesus said, at the end of the day, my house better be called a house of prayer!’ Because spotlights and fog machines and great preaching, great singing, and great production, won’t necessarily push the kingdom of darkness back. BUT when my people who are called my name will humble themselves and pray. I’m going to hear from heaven! He says, I’m going to heal their land! The enemy will have to bend a knee at the name of Jesus in prayer!”

OUR Great, infinite, endless, available God is waiting for YOU and I to ask, seek, draw near, praise, confess. He’s given us complete access. What are we waiting for? Help a young, new believer unlock the resources of heaven by helping them discover that prayer is the key. Many Christians have either – never learned how to pray or have lost a love for prayer. Prayer is our direct communication to God. Evangelism Explosion wants to see the resources of heaven unleashed on earth. We want to see the next Jesus movement take place with the youth of today. We want to see the weak become strong, the poor become rich, the dead man walk

again, the soul lost in darkness to hear of Jesus love and become light. Prayer unleashes these miracles, prayer brings the power, prayer opens the eyes of the blind. Let's get busy praying!

## -----Daily Reflections-----

- Sunday, March 20: As you begin this week's chapters from *A Praying Life*, Paul Miller writes, "A praying life opens itself to an infinite, searching God. As we shall see, we can't do that without releasing control, without constantly surrendering our will to God. 'Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven' is actually scary" (p. 101). Consider what about this is scary?
- Monday – Friday, March 21 – 25: [Chapter 12](#) - What happens to us when we see the world as "my Father's world."? What is it like when we're filled with the "expansiveness of spirit" Dana refers to on p. 95? How does this mindset help us to pray about things like science experiments? What areas of your life have you not yet considered praying about? [Chapter 13](#) – Paul writes on p. 98, "The issue of power – the ability to make a difference, to change something – is at the heart of asking." Why does power matter so much when it comes to asking? "Learned desperation is at the heart of a praying life." Think about times you have been desperate. Did this change how you prayed? Read 2 Chronicles 6:14, 18-21. This is the prayer Solomon prays when he dedicates the temple he built for God. Find the words or phrases that point to an infinite God. Then, find the words or phrases that point to a personal God. What is appealing to you about this infinite yet personal God? Why can you ask him?
- Saturday, March 26: What has God taught you about prayer this week? How's it going with releasing control and surrendering you will to God's will? How is your prayer life changing you and your relationship to God?



WEEKLY PRAYER REQUESTS FOR MARCH 20 – MARCH 26

**A**DORATION: praising God for who He is and what He has done.

We see Jesus – the One who was made a little lower than the angels – now crowned with glory and honor because You suffered death, so that by the grace of God You might taste death for everyone. In bringing many of us to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make You – the author of our salvation – perfect through suffering. (Hebrews 2: 9-10)

You are the King of kings and Lord of lords. We crown You with many crowns. You are the Lamb upon Your throne. We hail You, King Jesus, as our matchless King for all eternity. You, Jesus, triumphed over the grave. You rose victoriously! You died so that we could have life eternal. You reign on high! Jesus, You once walked on earth, the Incarnate Word, slain for sinners like me. But now, You live in realms of glorious light, seated in Your throne surrounded by angels singing before You day and night – Our God, Redeemer, King! We join the angels singing, You are the wondrous name of Love, our King of kings eternal. You are the Lord of lords and we praise Your holy name.

*Pause to express your thoughts of praise and worship!*

## **C**ONFESSION: stating our sins and asking forgiveness!

Jesus your word tells us in Deuteronomy 8:5 that parents discipline their children and You, the Lord our God, disciplines us. It is for our good that you chastise us because you desire the best for your children. So today, Jesus, reveal the sin that is ever before us. Search our hearts oh God. O God, You know my foolishness, and my guilt is not hidden from You. Show me the error of my ways. Reveal the hidden guiltiness of my heart. Make known to me the areas of my life that bring you dishonor and sadness. Chisel away anything that remains of my old sinful nature and transform me into Your image. If I say that I have fellowship with You, O Christ, and yet walk in the darkness, I lie and do not practice the truth. But if I walk in the light, as You are in the light, I have fellowship with others, and Your blood, O Jesus, purifies me from all sin. (1 John 1:6-7)

*Ask the Spirit to search your heart and reveal any areas of unconfessed sin. Acknowledge these to the Lord and thank Him for His forgiveness.*

## **T**HANKSGIVING: thanking God for specific things that He has done.

I will sing of Your strength, Yes, I will sing of Your mercy in the morning. For You have been my stronghold, my refuge in time of trouble. To You, O my strength, I will sing praises, for You are my fortress, my loving God. (Psalm 59:16-17)

The heavens declare Your glory, O God, and the skies proclaim the work of Your hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they reveal knowledge. I will exalt You, O Lord, for You lifted me up and did not let my enemies rejoice over me. O Lord my God, I cried to You for help and You healed me. (Ps. 19:1-2 and Ps. 30:1-2)

### EE Praises:

- On Saturday, March 19, Equip America was alive with excitement in Tampa, FL, Stillwater, Ok, El Paso, TX, Grand Junction, CO, and Fort Payne, AL. 5 churches across the USA were doing Equip America on the same day. Praise the Lord for great things He has done.
- Beth Workman, EE HFK Director, was able to do a 7-hour workshop in Chicago at the “By the Hand” inner city ministry that serves 6 campuses, nearly 20,000 children (kindergarten – college). Almost 100 staff members were taught how to use the HFK material. Beth was asked to serve on the global children’s task force of “The Prayer Covenant for Children.” Beth also taught a two-day HFK launch in Washington via zoom and taught 3 churches. God is using Beth in mighty ways to lead the HFK ministry.

- Don Workman, Regional Coordinator for the Northeast, has taught and led in several Equip America events in the first quarter of 2022. He and Beth are busy visiting churches, connecting with pastors, assisting them in outreach and evangelism ministry. Teaching EE at churches throughout the NE. We praise God for the work that He is accomplishing through Don and Beth Workman.
- John and Sheila Schweizer have seen God do amazing things in the Pacific NW. At the 3<sup>rd</sup> session of EV2 they saw many lives changes by the Gospel. God orchestrated a divine appointment where a team with a Filipino was ready to share the gospel with a Filipino couple they met during On-the-Job training, that couple was ready and eager to hear the gospel and received Jesus Christ as Lord of their life. 12 trainees from 5 different churches are learning to share their faith in Everett, WA. God is doing great things in WA.

*Pause to offer your own expressions of thanksgiving.*

**S**UPPLICATION: asking God for our needs and our wants.

- Pray for our brothers and sisters in Christ in Ukraine. EE has staff and missionaries in the Ukraine that need our prayers daily.
- Pray for local churches, relief workers, and humanitarian aid organizations to care for what could be a massive wave of displaced people in Ukraine.
- Pray for churches, God’s people to have peace and remain strong.
- Pray for believers as they seek to be a light in the darkness.
- .Pray for Ukrainians who have never heard the gospel to have an opportunity to experience the hope of Jesus and receive Jesus as Lord.
- Pray for our next Equip America on April 23 in the following locations:
  1. Pueblo, CO
  2. Tallahassee, FL
  3. Las Vegas, NV
  4. North Providence, RI (Spanish Version)
- **The 71st National Day of Prayer** will be celebrated on Thursday, May 5, 2022. The theme this year is a call to praise in prayer. *‘EXALT THE LORD, WHO HAS ESTABLISHED US’ based on Colossians 2:6-7.*
- For plans and preparations for Congress Of Nations in 2023

**(Ministries of EE: Share Your Faith Workshop, Everyday Evangelism, Hope for Kids)**

<b>SYFW</b>	3/26	First Baptist Church of Cole	Blanchard, OK
<b>SYFW</b>	4/2	First Baptist Church	Streetsboro, OH
<b>SYFW</b>	4/9	CrossPointe Church, CPA	Media, PA
<b>SYFW</b>	4/30	Rio Life Community Church. English & Spanish	Mercedes, TX
<b>SYFW</b>	4/30	Broadway Baptist Church	Maryville, TN
<b>SYFW</b>	4/30	Grace Baptist Church	Salem, OR
<b>SYFW</b>	5/7	One Life Church	Dalles, OR
<b>SYFW</b>	5/14	The Redeemed Christian Church	Erie, PA
<b>SYFW</b>	5/14	Callahan Baptist Church	Callahan, FL
<b>EV2 Launch</b>	4/7 - 4/8	First Baptist Rogers	Rogers, AR
<b>EV2 Launch</b>	4/21 – 4/23	Eficaz a Iglesia Un Nuevo Comienzo	El Paso, TX
<b>EV2 Launch</b>	8/4 – 8/5	First Baptist Rogers	Rogers, AR

<b>HFK Lab</b>	3/25 - 3/26	Landmark Church of God	Statesville, NC
<b>Classic Clinic</b>	10/24-10/28	Chinese Community Church of Indiana	Carmel, IN