



Week of July 31 – August 6, 2022  
Chapters 7-8

This week in our growing in prayer book study, *The Battle Plan for Prayer: From Basic Training to Targeted Strategies*, we will be reading about God's answers to prayer and scheduled time for prayer.

These chapters bring me back to the basics of the EE Prayer Network. Why does Evangelism Explosion have a prayer network? We believe that prayer is the power source behind the ministry of evangelism. And since we're all about evangelism, the ministry needs the undergirding of prayer to sustain, empower, strengthen, embolden and provide all that is necessary for our ministry to do the job that God has assigned for us to do.

One facet of the EE ministry is our field staff. Field staff – better known as Implementation Field Workers (IFW) – assist the church to equip the body of Christ to share their faith. We conduct Share Your Faith Workshops, Everyday Evangelism Launches and Labs, Classic Clinics, Hope for Kids Clinics and spend our life training up evangelism warriors for the kingdom. We need intercessory prayer to keep us strong, to help us make connections with churches, pastors, people. We need intercessory prayer for our On-The-Job Training opportunities – when we hit the streets with trainees or alone to share the gospel of Jesus Christ. We need intercessory prayer for God's ongoing provision – we are all ministry partner funded. Our livelihood depends of God's ongoing provision through people who will support us. When you pray, will you remember our field staff? A complete list of US field staff is found here: <https://store.evangelismexplosion.org/projects.aspx?CategoryID=52> and a list of our U.S leadership team is found here: <https://evangelismexplosion.org/us-staff/>. Please click on these links and commit to pray for our staff.

#### **In a battle? Pray!**

Prayer is one of the most discussed topics in the Bible. But, the least practiced among Christians and in the church. We do not seem to understand just how important prayer is nor do we have a good strategy for prayer. If we observe the practice of Jesus and the early church, we can learn much.

Most believers know we are in a spiritual battle. Jesus said that this world lies in the hands of the evil one. So, the devil is always out to defeat us and has the demise of the church in mind. He is a crafty and deceptive foe. We have come from a long line of folks who have fallen victim to his schemes and devices. If we want be victorious, we must learn to pray.

Ephesians 6:10-18 say, "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might. 11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. 13 Wherefore take unto you the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to

stand. 14 Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; 15 And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; 16 Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith you shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. 17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: 18 Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints." This is written to all Christians about how to prepare for conflict. We must put on the gospel armor to engage in spiritual conflict. So, we will be able to stand against Satan's strategies. Verse 18 says that prayer is the best strategy or weapon that we have to fight against Satan. So, we need a good STRATEGY for battle.

Luke 14:28 says, plan what you are going to do, "For which of you, intending to build a tower, sits not down first, and counts the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it?" So, if we are going to live wisely in this world, we must make plans so those who come against us do not take us by surprise. We are in a spiritual battle, and Satan wants to destroy us and we cannot win without prayer.

It has been said, if we fail to plan, we plan to fail. If we do not plan for spiritual conflict through prayer, we will not be productive spiritually. John 10:10 says, "The thief comes not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy..." Satan wants to defeat and destroy us. Peter, thought he could not deny Jesus, even after our Lord told him Satan had desired to sift him like one sifts wheat. Jesus told Peter he would deny Him 3 times before the rooster crowed.

Jesus on the same night of His betrayal and denial went to the Garden of Gethsemane to pray. So, He carried His inner circle of disciples with Him to pray. Twice He told them to watch and pray because the Spirit was willing but the flesh was weak. That night the flesh won and all the disciples fled and Peter denied our Lord. He wrote in 1 Peter 5:8, "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walks about, seeking whom he may devour." So, be alert, have a strategy for battle. The enemy is coming. He first fills us with fear, then wants to devour us.

Jesus said Satan is the prince and power of the air, and knew He has entered Satan's domain. Because of the spiritual warfare all around Him, Jesus spent much time in prayer. He would rise early to pray, or spend all night in prayer. The one thing His disciples asked Him to do was to teach them to pray. They knew the key to a victorious life was found in prayer. So, as we think of the spiritual conflict and needs in life and world we must learn to pray!

This devotional is written by Don Snipes, IFW who lives in NW Arkansas and serves Arkansas, Missouri, and really anywhere that he is needed. Pray for Don Snipes and his ministry as IFW in the USA.

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

Last week's reflections focused on our devotion to prayer. The Kendrick brothers say, "Devotion involves committing to something consistently and frequently. To be consistently devoted to prayer, we have to train ourselves in this practice. It does not come naturally. We must train ourselves to be in constant communion with God. When we get into a study like this one, we can run the risk of getting excited about prayer without actually accomplishing it. Instead of merely getting energized about a battle plan for prayer, we need to ensure that we get ourselves up for success. What practical steps do you need to take to ensure that you will be more persistent in prayer?"

Prayer times are sometimes spontaneous and sometimes we schedule times to get alone with God in prayer.

Read Matthew 6:5-8: Jesus' description of how He said we should pray is found in this passage.

1. What are three things you discovered about prayer from this passage?
2. What is Jesus condemning in these verses?

Jesus isn't condemning the act of public prayer itself, but rather a wrong motive.

3. Who is the intended audience for our prayers?

Prayer is ultimately not about you but about God. It is not about your glory or your will, but about His glory and His will. Jesus encourages true believers to take prayer into a private place because our prayers are not for stocking our ego, but for knowing and pleasing God alone.

4. Do you have a private room designated for prayer – a prayer closet or a special spot?
5. Do you have a specific time you meet with God? Why or why not?
6. How can you claim a room or a space where you can pray regularly?
7. Hold yourself accountable. Write down and commit to making a place and time for you to set aside prayer for the remainder of this study. They say that it takes 21 days to develop a habit. By the end of this study, if you stick with it diligently, you will have your place and time nailed down.

Daily reflections adapted from *The Battle Plan for Prayer Bible Study* Book by Stephen and Alex Kendrick and Travis Agnew



Weekly Prayer Guide for July 31 – August 6, 2022

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

I will bless You, Lord, at all times;  
 Your praise will always be in my mouth.  
 My soul will make its boast in You, Lord;  
 The humble will hear and be glad.  
 May all Your people magnify You with me,  
 And let us exalt Your name together.  
 You are my strong hold,  
 My God, You are a rock of refuge to me.  
 My soul will rejoice in You, Lord.  
 And delight in Your salvation.  
 O God, You are my God;  
 Earnestly I seek You;  
 My soul thirsts for You,  
 My body longs for You,  
 In a dry and wear land  
 Where there is no water.

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

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

Since Your day, O Lord, will come like a thief, what kind of person should I be? In holy conduct and Godliness I am to look forward to Your coming day. According to Your promise, I am looking for a new heaven and a new earth where righteousness will dwell. Therefore, since I am looking for these things, may I be diligent to be found at peace with You, pure and blameless before You. (2 Peter 3:10 – 14) Search my heart and know my thoughts, O Lord, is there any offensive ways within me? Make known to me any offenses that are displeasing in Your sight so that I can walk in Your ways, upright and blameless, pleasing You and bringing honor to You alone.

- Forgive us for not loving You with all our heart, O God;
- For not loving our neighbor in the same way;
- For not loving You with our minds, O God;
- For not loving You with all our strength.

*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.*

**THANKSGIVING:** thanking God for specific things that He has done.

I am continually with You; You hold me by my right hand. You guide me with Your counsel, and afterward You will take me to glory. (Ps. 73:23 -24). I will be still and know that You are God; You will be exalted among the nations; You will be exalted in the earth. I bless You, O Lord, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting. Amen and Amen. (Ps. 41:13). I give thanks to You, for you are good; Your lovingkindness endures forever. Your word is settled in heaven forever. Your faithfulness continues through all generations. You established the earth, and it stands. Your laws continue to this day according to Your purposes, for all things serve You. (Ps. 119:89-91) My soul silently waits for You alone, O God; my salvation comes from You alone. You alone are my rock and my salvation; You are my stronghold; I will never be shaken. May You be blessed, O Lord God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting. I praise You, O Lord.

EE Praises:

- We thank God that Don Workman taught an Everyday Evangelism Launch in Fairfield, Maine with 25 participants, 6 of them were pastors from 8 different churches, 5 of them are new to EE. 13 people heard the gospel and 5 people made professions of faith. Praise the Lord for doing great things! Praise the Lord for helping those that feared OJT see the Lord's mighty hand.
- We thank God that Paul Golden taught a SYFW in Eastaboga, AL with 35 participants, 2 of them were pastors. 12 people heard the gospel and 3 made professions of faith.

*Pause to offer your own expressions of thanksgiving.*

**SUPPLICATION:** asking God for our needs and our wants.

As living stones, we are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to You, O God through Jesus Christ. We are a chosen people, a

royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for Your own possession that we may declare Your praises – You have called us out of darkness into Your marvelous light. (1 Peter 2:5, 9) We ask that You would help us walk according to Your plans and purposes.

Please join us in asking the Father for these things:

Pray that Eastaboga Baptist in AL will begin the implementing process

- Pray that Riverside Assembly Church in Maine and all the other churches that attended the EE Launch on July 14<sup>th</sup> will begin the implementing process.
- Please pray for the next Equip America on August 13<sup>th</sup> in California. We will have one in Lake Tahoe and one in Orange County: provided in Korean, Spanish and English. Pray for God’s favor and for a great turn out of pastors and believers ready to learn EE’s method of sharing the Gospel.
- PLEASE make the following request a matter of intercessory prayer.  
WE need field staff in the state of Montana. We just held an Equip America in Billings and Helena, Montana. We need staff and EE trained people to carry on the work in this area of the country. There’s a lot of work to be done in Montana, including American Indian Reservations that need to be reached with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Pray with us about this important need.
- Pray for SPIRITUAL AWAKENING IN AMERICA!
- Pray for our nation’s churches: that the church would find a new zeal and commitment to the mission and purpose of Jesus Christ, unity with and among churches that reveal God’s love to the world, integrity – that God’s people look and act differently from the world. Colossians 2:6-8
- For plans and preparations for Congress Of Nations in 2023.
- For the safety of children and youth as they prepare to return to school.
- Pray that Eastaboga Baptist in AL will begin the implementing process.

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

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|-----------------------|-------------|---|----------------------|
| <b>SYFW</b>           | <b>8/27</b> | <b>Cowboy Church of Collin County</b>             | <b>Princeton, TX</b> |
| <b>SYFW</b>           | 8/27        | Martha Road Baptist Church                        | Altus, OK            |
| <b>SYFW</b>           | 8/27        | Trinity Presbyterian Church                       | Harrisburg, PA       |
| <b>SYFW</b>           | 9/10        | Newton Covenant Reformed Church                   | Newton, NJ           |
| <b>SYFW</b>           | 9/17        | Trinity Baptist Church/Clear Creek Baptist Assoc. | Alma, AR             |
| <b>SYFW</b>           | 9/17        | Windham Bible Church                              | Windham, OH          |
| <b>SYFW</b>           | 9/24        | DOXA Church Without Walls                         | Baltimore, MD        |
| <b>EV2 Launch</b>     | 8/4 – 8/5   | First Baptist Rogers                              | Rogers, AR           |
| <b>EV2 Launch</b>     | 8/19        | Greenhouse Community Church                       | Houston, TX          |
| <b>EV2 Launch</b>     | 9/15        | Harvest Presbyterian                              | Lancaster, PA        |
| <b>HFK</b>            | 8/26        | EE Canada   | North York, Ontario  |
| <b>HFK</b>            | 9/23        | Journey Christian Church                          | Tracey, CA           |
| <b>Classic Clinic</b> | 10/24-10/28 | Chinese Community Church of Indiana               | Carmel, IN           |

