



LET US PRAY

LESSON 3 // WHEN TO PRAY

Big Idea: Prayer is a vital part of your relationship with God, and you'll never pray effectively unless you understand something about when to pray. The Bible teaches us that you should pray daily and consistently throughout the day. Pray before, during and after important events in your life. And, in addition to praying privately, pray with and for others.

Matthew 6:11 (NIV) Give us today our daily bread.

Mark 1:35 (NIV) Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed.

Matthew 6:6 (NIV) But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

1 Thessalonians 5:17 (NIV) Pray continually.

Luke 6:12-13 (NIV) One of those days Jesus went out to a mountainside to pray, and spent the night praying to God. 13 When morning came, he called his disciples to him and chose twelve of them, whom he also designated apostles.

James 5:13 (NIV) Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray.

Acts 4:24 (NIV) When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God.

Ephesians 6:18 (NIV) And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.

Start Talking:

How hard or easy is it for you to stay consistent with a daily prayer time? What time seems to work best for you (or what time do you think would work best if you're just getting started with this)?

Start Thinking:

Read Matthew 6:6, 11; Mark 1:35; 1 Thessalonians 5:17. Why is it so valuable and important for us as believers to pray daily and consistently?

Read Luke 6:12-13. How does praying before key events in our lives help prepare us for those moments?

Read James 5:13. What difference can it make when we pray in the midst of trouble and trials?

Read Acts 4:24; Ephesians 6:18-20. Why is praying with and for others a vital part of the Christian church and community?

Start Praying and Doing:

If you haven't already, set a time that will work for you to pray daily. Practice the discipline of praying at that time (even it's just 5 minutes) each day this week and going forward until it becomes a habit. Also, look for opportunities throughout your day to pray before, during and/or after important moments. Take to heart the command to "pray continually" (1 Thessalonians 5:17) and consider what this looks like for you. Let prayer become more of the "atmosphere" you live in all day!