

Practical Questions to Consider

- 1) What is one thing you can do to grow in your intake of God's Word?
- 2) What time of the day can you commit to spending time in God's Word?
- 3) What kind of plan will you make to structure your time in God's word? (e.g., *daily Bible reading plan; Bible in a year; book of the Bible; Psalm/Proverb a day*)
- 4) How will you seek to apply God's word each day?
- 5) How will you structure your prayer time?

Meeting with God Core Seminar Schedule

Week 1: Introduction: The What, Why and How of Meeting with God

Week 2: Meeting with God in His Word: Hearing and Reading

Week 3: Meeting with God in His Word: Studying, Meditating and Memorizing

Week 4: Meeting with God through Prayer

Week 5: Prayer: Hindrances and Practicalities

Week 6: Panel

Questions? Contact us:

Brandon Owen at Brandon@claycommunity.org

Walt Ellmaker at walt.ellmaker@verizon.net

Sunday Seminars—Meeting with God Class 5: Prayer: Purposes, Pitfalls, & Practicalities



A quiet time is the part of the day that we set aside for the worship of God, for the reading of the Word of God and for fellowship with God so that we would know Him more, know ourselves in light of Him, and know the world according to His perspective.

Prayer is the *Spirit-given, Word-saturated* response, through communication, to meeting with God.

Praise / Confession / Thanksgiving / Supplication

Purposes of Prayer

- 1) To glorify God

John 14:13-14

- Pray in Jesus' name
- Our prayers will be answered
- God will be glorified

John 15:7-8

What does it mean for God to be glorified?

Revelation 21:23

- 2) To make God known in the world by our bearing the fruit of the gospel

John 15:16

- "...so that..."
- Bearing fruit (Galatians 5:22-23)

- 3) To have access to our great Commander in a time of war

- 2 Timothy 4:7
- 2 Timothy 2:3-4

We have an enemy: *Satan*

- 1 Peter 5:8
- 2 Corinthians 11:14

Selfishness and war: what or whom do you pray for most?

- Concern for others = a mark of a Christian
 - John 13:34-35: love for believers
 - Matthew 22:37-39: love for neighbor
- Prayer for other believers
 - Ephesians 6:17-18
- Prayer as a wartime walkie-talkie, *not* a domestic intercom
 - Ephesians 6:10-20

Pitfalls in meeting with God

(1) *Dependence on our emotions*

- Hitting a dry patch

- Wandering minds
- Seemingly unanswered prayers
- No desire to read the Bible or pray
 - Incline (Psalm 119:36)
 - Open (Psalm 119:18)
 - Unite (Psalm 86:11)
 - Satisfy (Psalm 90:14)
- Unrepentant sin/feelings of unworthiness

(2) *Legalism*

“Seeking to achieve forgiveness from God and acceptance by God through obedience.”

Justification – Being *declared* righteous by God: position before God

Sanctification – Being *made* righteous by God: process

(3) *Laziness*

The Roots of our Pitfalls: lack of desire for God