

Life is busy



Too
Busy
Not
To
Pray
#3
Gary
Olsen

Where I am with prayer right now:

- 1) Prayer is like oxygen; I breathe it in throughout the day, every day.
- 2) I don't pray as often as I'd like, but it is a key part, a priority in my life.
- 3) Almost every day, I start to pray, but life interrupts and I rarely do it.
- 4) I have good intentions, but ...
- 5) It doesn't ever occur to me.



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Psalm 119:147-148 *ERV*

¹⁴⁷ I get up early in the morning
to pray to you.

I trust what you say.

¹⁴⁸ Late into the night

I stay awake
to think about your word.



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Psalm 119:147 *ERV*

147 I get up
early in the morning
to pray to you...

Psalms 119:145 *ERV*

¹⁴⁵ Lord, I call to you
with all my heart.

Psalms 119:145,147 *ERV*

145 ... Answer me,
and I will obey...

147 ...I trust what you say.

Psalms 119:147 *ERV*

148 Late into the night
I stay awake
to think about your word.

Psalms 119:162
ERV

162 Your word makes me happy,
like someone who
has found a great treasure.

Matthew 13:145 *ERV*

44 “God’s kingdom is like
a treasure hidden in a field.
One day a man found the
treasure...

Matthew 13:145 *ERV*

44 “...He hid it again
and was so happy
that he went and sold
everything he owned
and bought the field.”

Psalms 119:145 *ERV*

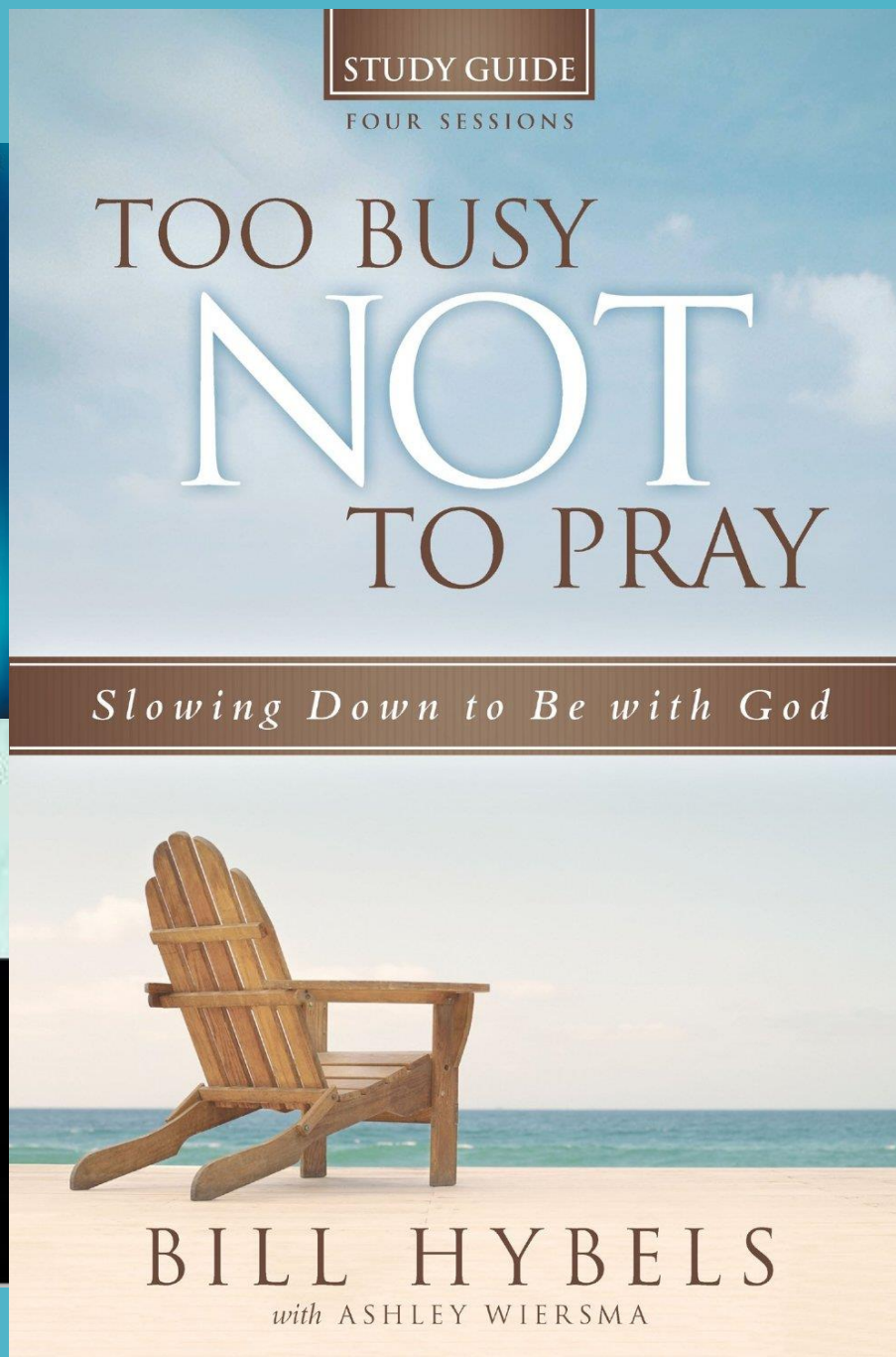
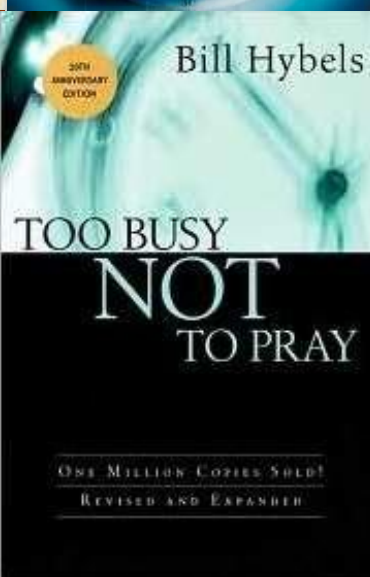
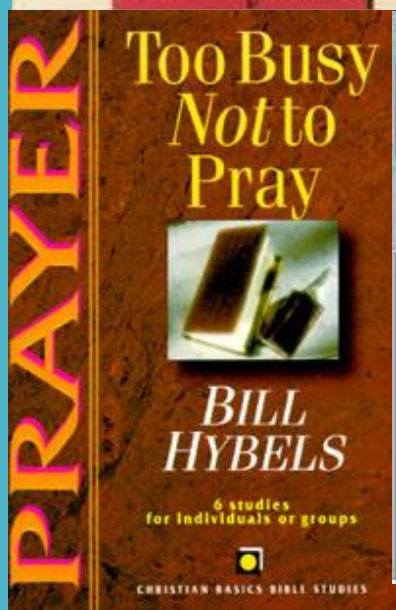
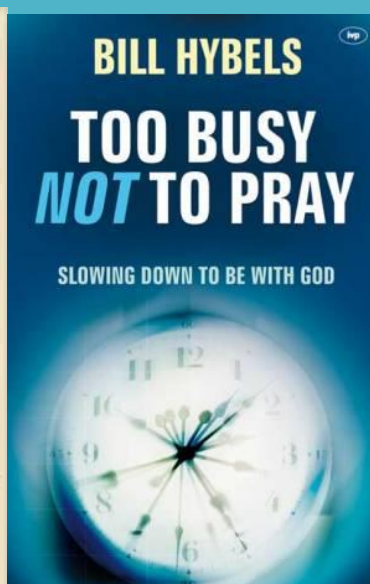
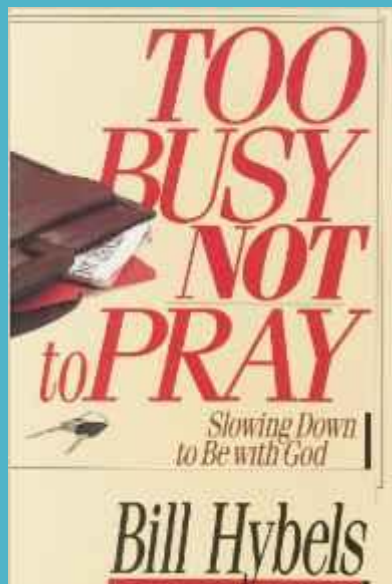
162 Your word makes me happy,
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Psalms 119:148 *ERV*

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“Most Christ-followers that I meet say they just don’t have time for daily prayer.

But it is always fascinating to discover what they do have time for.”

-- Pastor Bill Hybels, *Too Busy Not To Pray*

“If they want to develop
in any other area

[fantasy football, day-trading,
physical fitness, golf, antique
cars, cooking, grilling, boats,
genealogy, gardening, travel, etc]
they diligently carve out time.”

-- Pastor Bill Hybels, *Too Busy Not To Pray*

“People who are serious about something always make room for it in their schedules.

If prayer is important to you, then you’ll find time to do it.”

-- Pastor Bill Hybels, *Too Busy Not To Pray*

Are you serious?!

Are you serious about
(1) talking to God, and
(2) listening to God?!



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Seriously!

(1) Talking
to
God



Psalms 119:145 *ERV*

¹⁴⁵ Lord, I call to you
with all my heart.

“Have you ever decided
to pray about something,
added it to your prayer list,
maybe even told a friend
you were praying about it,
but then never actually
committed that ‘something’
to prayer?”

-- Pastor Bill Hybels, *Too Busy Not To Pray*

“You may have talked a good game, but you never actually got down on your knees and petitioned the King of the universe – the One who is willing and able to solve any problem, anytime, according to His plan?”

-- Pastor Bill Hybels, *Too Busy Not To Pray*

“Look me in the eye and tell me
— yes or no — if you’ve prayed
about this fervently and
regularly over an extended
period of time.”

-- Pastor Bill Hybels, *Too Busy Not To Pray*

“When was the last time you prayed diligently over a period of time for your spouse, your parents, or your children? Or for someone to come to know Christ?”

-- Pastor Bill Hybels, *Too Busy Not To Pray*

“Or for peace in the
war-torn world?

Or that God’s power would
cause a revolution in your
church?

Or that God would put you to
work for His glory?”

-- Pastor Bill Hybels, *Too Busy Not To Pray*

“I’ve hear it said that
If you bring a thimble to God,
He’ll fill it.

If you bring a bucket to God,
He’ll fill it.”

-- Pastor Bill Hybels, *Too Busy Not To Pray*

“If you bring a
500-gallon barrel to God,
He’ll fill it.”

-- Pastor Bill Hybels, *Too Busy Not To Pray*

What size requests
are you bringing
To God?

-- Pastor Bill Hybels, *Too Busy Not To Pray*

“Are your prayers hit or miss?

Half-hearted?

How much impact do you think
they have in heaven?

What do you think?!.”

-- Pastor Bill Hybels, *Too Busy Not To Pray*

“Are you asking Him ...
regularly,
earnestly,
and persistently?”

-- Pastor Bill Hybels, *Too Busy Not To Pray*

“Pray as if there is no
tomorrow.

Pray with your face
to the floor.”

-- Pastor Bill Hybels, *Too Busy Not To Pray*

Psalms 119:145 *ERV*

¹⁴⁵ Lord, I call to you
with all my heart.

Are you serious?!

Are you serious about
(1) talking to God, and
(2) listening to God?!

Seriously!

(2) Listening
to
God

“As I’ve studied prayer over the years, I’ve sensed God saying, ‘If we are supposedly enjoying a relationship, then why are you doing all the talking? Let me get a word in somewhere!’”

-- Pastor Bill Hybels, *Too Busy Not To Pray*

“How does the King of the universe communicate with earthbound men and women once they allow him to get a word in edgewise?”

-- Pastor Bill Hybels, *Too Busy Not To Pray*

“First,

God speaks *through His Word*.

As we read the Bible and
meditate on its truth

God helps us apply it
to our lives.”

-- Pastor Bill Hybels, *Too Busy Not To Pray*

“Another way God speaks to us
is *through people*.

And a third way God speaks to
us is *through direct promptings
of the Holy Spirit.*”

-- Pastor Bill Hybels, *Too Busy Not To Pray*



Psalms 119:148 *ERV*

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Psalms 119:162 *ERV*

162 Your word makes me happy,
like someone who
has found a great treasure.

Is the Bible an
optional read for me?
An ancient, irrelevant book?
Something only scholars,
pastors, and hardcore
Christians need to study?

Or is God really trying to
communicate with me through
the Bible?

Not with mere history lessons,
life lessons, or stories with a
moral, but with God speaking
into my life here and now?

Inductive Bible Study

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Inductive Bible Study

Share

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Inductive Bible Study

Share

Hear

E

E

P

Inductive Bible Study

Share

Hear

Explore

E

P

Inductive Bible Study

Share

Hear

Explore

Engage

P

Inductive Bible Study

Share

Hear

Explore

Engage

Prepare

Is your Bible reading
hit or miss? Half-hearted?
How much impact do you think
it has bringing “God’s will to be
done on earth as in heaven?”
What do you think?!

-- Pastor Bill Hybels, *Too Busy Not To Pray*

“Are you listening Him
through Scripture...
regularly,
earnestly,
and persistently?”

-- Pastor Bill Hybels, *Too Busy Not To Pray*

Read the Bible
as if there is no tomorrow.

Pray with your face
to the floor.”

-- Pastor Bill Hybels, *Too Busy Not To Pray*

Are you serious?!

Seriously!
Talk to God, and
listen to God?!

Jesus is waiting for you
in the room of your
heart.

Psalm 119:147 *ERV*

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early in the morning
to pray to you...

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