



## PRAYER

Scott Hansen, Lead Pastor  
November 3, 2013

### INTRODUCTION

- ▶ Prayer is a mysterious thing
- ▶ We all need to grow in this area of our spiritual life
- ▶ Prayer really matters... it changes things (James 5:16)

### MECHANICS OF PRAYER – WE PRAY...

- 1 To the Father (Matthew 6:9)
- 2 In the name of the Son (John 14:6,13-14)
- 3 In the power of the Holy Spirit  
(Romans 8:26-27; Ephesians 6:18; Jude 20-21)
- 4 Boldly (Luke 11:5-8; Hebrews 4:16)
- 5 With faith (Mark 11:22-24; Luke 11:9-10)
- 6 On all occasions (Ephesians 6:18)
- 7 Without ceasing (Luke 18:1; 1 Thessalonians 5:17)
- 8 According to God's will (James 4:1-3)

**CORE BELIEF:** We believe prayer is conversation with God, seeking His power to align ourselves & our world with His will.

**CORE VALUE:** Therefore we will pray to align ourselves with God's will, expecting His power to change our world.

**VISION FOR THE FUTURE:** Prayer Involvement

### QUESTION: HOW DO I ALIGN MYSELF WITH THE WILL OF GOD IN PRAYER?

- 1 Increase your Bible knowledge (Romans 12:2)
- 2 Obey the light God gives you (Psalm 37:4)
- 3 Lose the will war (Matthew 26:36-45; John 3:30)
- 4 Practice a lot (1 Corinthians 9:24-27)

A N Y O N E C A N D O T H I S !

- Please make sure I receive the weekly prayer note (please share your email)
- I'll take the John 3:30 prayer challenge this week
- I will seek to pray at least 5 minutes a day this coming week



## PRAYER

Scott Hansen, Lead Pastor

November 3, 2013

**Lesson Aim:** *To dig deeper in our understanding that prayer is a conversation with God, seeking His power to align ourselves & our world with His will.*

**Prayer:** Ask the Holy Spirit to lead your study time and/or discussion.

**Icebreaker:** What is your earliest memory of personal prayer? Do you remember what you prayed about?

1. Look over the section in your notes called “Mechanics of Prayer.” Which of these “mechanics” stand out the most to you? Why?
2. **READ** the following verses that were shared in Pastor Scott’s teaching last weekend. Then answer this question: What do these verses teach us about how we can learn to align our prayers with God’s will?
  - **Romans 12:2:**
  - **1 Corinthians 9:24-27:**
  - **James 4:1-3:**

3. Look over the section in your notes called “Alignment.” Share one recent example of how you have been able to “align yourself to God’s will in prayer.”
4. Looking again over the principles mentioned in the “Alignment” section, which one is the easiest for you to apply and practice? Why?
5. Which one is the hardest for you to apply and practice? Why?
6. Luke records three parables Jesus told about prayer. **READ** each parable and then answer this question: what do they teach us about our attitude and God’s attitude concerning prayer?
  - The friend at midnight in **Luke 11: 5-13:**
  - The persistent widow in **Luke 18: 1-8:**
  - The pharisee and the tax collector in **Luke 18: 9-14:**
7. What principles or insights from these parables do you find to be...
  - Most challenging?
  - Most helpful?
  - Most confusing?
8. What is one step you could take this week to better align your prayer life with God’s will?

**Close in prayer as the Holy Spirit leads you.**

This **LifeGroup** Study Guide is designed to help you apply Sunday’s message. You can do this homework on your own; however we encourage you to check out our warm and friendly message-based **LifeGroups!** Get a copy of this Study Guide at [theBridgeFresno.com](http://theBridgeFresno.com) by clicking on the “Messages” link.