



The Prayer Jesus Gave Us

with Nate Dewberry

DISCUSSION

1. How often do you pray? Do you find it difficult to make prayer part of your daily routine? If yes, then why do you think that is?

1 Thessalonians 5:17 – “Pray without ceasing.”

2. When you do pray, what kinds of things do you talk to God about? Do you ask for help or understanding in difficult times? When you pray, do you take time to thank God for what he's already done, or do you focus more on what you need from him?

Philippians 4:6 – “In every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving...”

3. Pastor and author Derwin Gray eloquently describes prayer as “a holy longing to be with God; to experience His love that surpasses understanding; to be embraced by His merciful presence; to lose ourselves in His redeeming purposes so we can find ourselves.” Did any part of that description resonate with you? Did any part of it sound foreign to you, or like something that didn't match up with your own prayer experience?

Psalms 42:1-2 – “My soul thirsts for God...”

4. When you are struggling in some aspect of your life, who do you go to first for help? Do you ever go to God first in prayer? If not, is there any particular reason you put off seeking His help and guidance?

Psalms 46:1 – “God is our refuge and strength...”

5. When you've been wronged or slighted and are really having trouble forgiving someone, do you ever stop to think about how Jesus has forgiven all of us? Could that knowledge change your perspective on forgiveness?

Ephesians 4:32 — "Forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."

6. When you pray, do you consider it a privilege to talk to God, as Nate described? Or do you view it more as a chore to be checked off your daily list of to-dos? Did Nate's discussion of the Lord's Prayer help you find any ways in which you can make your own prayer life less obligatory and more meaningful?

Hebrews 4:16 — "Approach God's throne of grace with confidence..."

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- *God, Do You Hear Me? Discover the Prayer God Always Answers* by Derwin Gray
- *Praying Like Monks, Living Like Fools: An Invitation to the Wonder and Mystery of Prayer* by Tyler Staton
- *Prayer: Experiencing Awe and Intimacy with God* by Timothy Keller