

# Praying Together: Discovering the Power of Prayer

ConcordUnited.org/Bible

Grow Through the Bible:  
August 6-September 2, 2023

*God created us to pray. Prayer is the language God gave us for direct communication with our creator. Like any language, it must be learned painstakingly through practice. Naturally, Jesus modeled and taught prayer. In this series we focus on why we pray and how to pray by considering the Principles of Prayer, the Posture of Prayer, the Plan for Prayer and the importance of Perseverance in Prayer.*

<b>Week of August 6</b>	<b><i>The Principles of Prayer</i></b> <i>Prayer gives us a language for relating directly to God. We were made in God's image, created to be in intimate connection with Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Prayer is meant to be public and private. Jesus teaches his disciples to pray privately, and he also teaches and demonstrates public prayer. All Christians need to be comfortable praying publicly because it is one of the primary ways we share Christ. For Jesus, fasting and prayer are inextricably connected.</i>				
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>
○ Matthew 6:5-18	○ Genesis 1:26-31; 3:8	○ Matthew 15:35-37, Luke 24:28-31	○ Matthew 21:12-14, Isaiah 56:4-8, Jer 7:9-11	○ Luke 23:34 & 46, Mark 15:34	○ Psalm 55
<b>Week of August 13</b>	<b><i>The Posture of Prayer</i></b> <i>Humility is the most foundational element of prayer, a conversation between a creature and God. Often we can't hear God speak in prayer because we approach God as an equal and try to use prayer to manipulate God into endorsing our will rather than wholly seeking God's will. We must approach with humility to intimately connect to God. Our readings this week explore humility in prayer.</i>				
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>
○ 1 Samuel 1:1-2:11	○ 1 Samuel 3:1-21	○ 2 Chronicles 7:11-16	○ Luke 18:9-14	○ Matthew 9:14-15, Luke 22:39-46	○ Psalm 5



Week of August 20	<b>The Plan for Prayer</b> <i>In the Lord's prayer, we find a prayer to recite and a recipe for prayer. The recipe is ACTS – Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, and Supplication (praying for specific situations). Christians should be ready to pray and have a plan for both public and private prayer. The psalms give us language for praying in specific circumstances, and they also give us words for prayer when we just don't have any words ourselves.</i>					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
○ Matthew 6:7-15	○ Psalm 23	○ Psalm 46	○ Psalm 38	○ 2 Samuel 12:13-23, Psalm 51	○ Psalm 131 & 150	

Week of August 27	Perseverance in Prayer				
	We are instructed to persevere in prayer, to keep asking and keep seeking until we see God at work. God will not always answer our prayer in the way we desire or on the timeline we hope for, but God will always answer. And we can trust God is doing things in God’s time for God’s reasons. Prayer is meant to be a lifelong journey. Praying each day is as fundamental to our existence as speaking each day to our family.				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
○ Luke 11:5-10; 18:1-8	○ Matthew 7:7-11	○ Colossians 4:2-4	○ 1 Thess 5:12-28	○ Ephesians 6:10-20	○ Psalm 145



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