



Sweet “Our” of Prayer

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Pray then like this: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen. (Matthew 6:9-13)

Prayer is an
invitation
into the heart
and mission
of God

There is a _____ aspect of prayer that we have lost. Whatever else prayer is, it is ultimately about relationships, vertical and horizontal.

Rediscovering the “our” of prayer

All these with _____ were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers. (Acts 1:14)

They were continually _____ to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. (Acts 2:42)

Now Peter and John were going up to the _____ at the ninth hour, the hour of prayer. (Acts 3:1)

So Peter was kept in the prison, but prayer for him was being made fervently by the _____ to God. (Acts 12:5)

Therefore, confess your sins to _____, and pray for one another so that you may be healed. (James 5:16)

Praying together
made them a
healthy church

What happens when we pray?

- 1) Mutual _____
- 2) Different _____ are freely released
- 3) Love and unity _____
- 4) Exponential _____

Prayer is an invitation into the heart and mission of God.

In our journey to maturity in Christ, God will move us from law to love; from duty to devotion.

Prayer is a crucial part of walking in the Spirit.

My time with God significantly affects my time with people.

When I am rightly related to Him, I think right about the people around me.

Prayer is not struggling to get things from God. Rather, it is holding the person I love or the circumstance I am concerned with up before God and staying attune to the Holy Spirit — then praying as I am led.

God wants to change me as much as I want to change things through my prayer. He is always at work, forming Christ's character in me.

Questions for House Church or discipling triads:

- 1) When you think of prayer, what comes to mind?
- 2) Do you have a story of God moving you from duty to devotion in the area of prayer?
- 3) How might viewing prayer as an invitation into the heart and mission of God bring a restful attitude into your prayer experience?
- 4) In what ways could you begin to practically experience praying together with other believers?

Fill-ins for side one: corporate, one accord, devoting themselves, temple, church, one another, encouragement, gifts, increase, power