

the IRRELIGIOUS LIFE

experiencing the inside-out spirituality of Jesus

Week 7: *CONVERSATIONS WITH GOD*

INTRODUCTION – Getting Face To Face With God

2 Corinthians 3:18

Exodus 33:11; Numbers 12:8; Deuteronomy 5:4-5

(VS. Exodus 33:18-23)

JESUS SCENE – Why Does Jesus Pray So Much?

Matthew 9:37-38; 14:23; Mark 6:46;
Luke 3:21; 9:28; 18:1; 22:31-32

Mark 1:35-38; Luke 5:16; 6:12-13; 11:1-13

Jesus models the ability to acknowledge God and talk with him _____ his eventful moments, as well as regular times alone for focussed, “face to face” intimacy.

A healthy intimate relationship includes both shared _____ + shared _____.

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE #7 – Conversation

Colossians 4:2-3; Philippians 4:4-7

PATTERNS FOR DAILY PRAYER...

A - Adoration
C - Confession
T - Thanksgiving
S – Supplication

“The Lord’s Prayer” – Matthew 6:9-13 (KJV):

- **Our Father** [Getting perspective – OUR Father & Our FATHER]
- **which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.** [Honour/Worship/Praise]
- **Thy kingdom come.** [Globally and locally, with structures, groups, and individuals]
- **Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.** [Surrendering my agenda]
- **Give us this day our daily bread.** [“This Day” emphasis for simple requests]
- **And forgive us our debts.** [Pause, reflect, confess, release]
- **as we forgive our debtors.** [Pause, reflect, confess, release]
- **And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:** [Stratagize with God]
- **For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever.** [Worship]

Spirit to Spirit Praying (**Romans 8:26-28; 1 Corinthians 14:2, 15**)

CONCLUSION – The Only Way To Learn How To Pray

...is by _____!

Luke 9:18, 28; 22:41; Mark 14:38
Numbers 6:24-26

HOME CHURCH QUESTIONS...

WARMING UP...

1. After reviewing this week’s message, including the key Scripture passages, share one thing that most challenged, convicted, or encouraged you. What is the value in prayer for experiencing a “face to face” relationship with God?

LOOK TO THE BOOK...

2. Read **2 Corinthians 12:7-10**. a) What verse or phrase or thought stands out the most to you from this passage? Why? b) No one knows for sure what Paul’s “thorn in the flesh” was, although there are many theories (eyesight problems, poor health, a failed marriage, etc.). Why do you think God left this vague? d) It seems that Satan thought the thorn was *his* idea (also see **John 13:27 ; 1 Thessalonians 2:17-18**). What can we learn from this about our suffering and God’s purposes? e) What does **verse 8** teach us about prayer? f) How is God’s power perfected in weakness (**v. 9**)? What does that mean? What does this reality look like when lived out in our lives today?

SO WHAT?...

3. It’s time to pray. Using either the ACTS model or the Lord’s Prayer model in your notes, take 10-20 minutes to pray together or individually. Commit now to comparing notes next week about how your practice of prayer has been during the week.

Bruxy Cavey @ *THE MEETING HOUSE* – Sunday, March 5 / 12, 2006