

## **Developing Discipleship through Prayer**

“...The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results.” (James 5:16 NLT)

Prayer is powerful and effective and can be used to disciple others. We will examine how to incorporate prayer in our discipleship process to change lives.

Discipleship is ... (How would you define it?)

A working definition of discipleship: Reflecting Christ’s character in how we live, participating in Christ’s mission and helping others do the same.

Weakness in discipleship and prayer lead to what Dave Buehring calls “spiritual thinness”. (*“The Great Opportunity”*) What is the evidence of “spiritual thinness”?

To live so that we reflect Christ’s character, we must be living a life saturated in prayer and discipleship. Because that’s how Jesus lived.

Luke 11:1 “Now Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he finished, one of his disciples said to him, ‘Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.’”

Jesus’ disciples asked him to teach them to pray. John taught his disciples to pray. Shouldn’t we teach those we disciple to pray? Grant Edwards calls prayer “the art of conversation with God”. (*“Conversations, First Steps Discipleship”*)

Who taught you to pray?

Who have you taught to pray?

I Thessalonians 5:17 tells us, “...pray without ceasing”.

Philippians 4:6 says, “do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be known to God.”

II Chronicles 7:14 admonishes us, “if my people who are called by my name humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.”

**We need to pray ourselves and we need to teach those we disciple to pray like this ...**

Pray \_\_\_\_\_ – I Thessalonians 5:17; Luke 18:1-5

Pray \_\_\_\_\_ – Hebrews 4:16

Pray in \_\_\_\_\_ – Matthew 21:21-22

Pray in your \_\_\_\_\_ – Philemon 1:6

Pray \_\_\_\_\_ – James 4:2

Pray and \_\_\_\_\_ – John 10:27

Keep \_\_\_\_\_ of your prayers –

Practice praying –

**START NOW!!!**

Resources:

- “Conversations, First Steps Discipleship”, Grand Edwards;
- “The Great Opportunity”, Dave Buehring;
- “Circle Maker”, Mark Batterson;
- “Discipleship that Works”, Grant Edwards;
- “21 Days to Ignite your Life through Prayer”, Dennis Owens;
- “Something Needs to Change”, David Platt;
- “What Every Christian Should Know”, Leroy Eims