BIBLE STUDY

**Becoming A Person of Prayer**

**Lesson 3: Engaging With Prayer**

**DISCUSSION**

There’s something exquisitely luxurious about room service in a hotel. All you have to do is pick up the phone and someone is ready and waiting to bring you breakfast, lunch, dinner, a chocolate milkshake, whatever your heart desires and your stomach will tolerate. Or by another languid motion of the wrist, you can telephone for someone who will get a soiled shirt quickly transformed into a clean one or a rumpled suit into a pressed one. That’s the concept that some of us have of prayer. We have created God in the image of a divine bellhop. Prayer, for us, is the ultimate in room service, wrought by direct dialing. Furthermore, no tipping, and everything is charged to that great credit card in the sky. Now prayer is many things, but I’m pretty sure this is not one of the things it is.

 - Kenneth Wilson, quoted in Lloyd Cory, Quote UnQuote (Swindoll’s Ultimate Book of Illustrations & Quotes

Remember that prayer is communicating with God from the heart as to a friend.

Prayer should be deliberate. Prayer should be intentional. Prayer should be on purpose.

Prayer is me lifting up my whole soul to the God with whom I share a personal relationship.

Prayer is not a formula that you have to get right.

Prayer is praising God – for who He is, as well as for what He has done.

Prayer is an opportunity for me to reverence God for who He is**.**

\* Tell me some of the words you used to reverence God during your prayer time this week.

**Let’s return to Matthew 6:9**

**DISCOVERY**

WHAT IS PRAYER?

Isaiah 55:8-9 “For my thoughts are not your thoughts, and your ways are not my ways.”

This is the Lord’s declaration. 9 For as heaven is higher than earth, so my ways are higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.”

Prayer acknowledges that God is greater than the **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** of my humanity.

**Job 11:7-8**; **Psalm 147:5**

This acknowledgement reminds me that I am **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**.

**Psalm 103:14**; **Genesis 3:19**; **Psalm 78:39**

I cannot hide my weakness(es) from God.

**Job 31:4; Psalm 11:4; Proverbs 5:21, Proverbs 15:3**

\*When a person acknowledges their own weakness, how usually, is that person viewed by society?

\*Are you afraid to acknowledge YOUR weakness before God? Others?

Prayer affords me the privilege of asking for God’s **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**, in, upon, over, and through my life.

**Psalm 27:1, 28:7-8**, **46:1**, **73:26**, **118:14**

When I ask for God’s strength, I am admitting that my strength is not enough for the task.

When I ask for God’s strength, I am surrendering my strength.

When I surrender my strength, God can do His work through me.

Prayerful surrender to God looks like obedience to His Word.

**DIRECTION****Use the list of words you created to reverence God. Open your prayer with these words.**

**Confess your weaknesses to God. Ask for His strength.**

**Every day, for the next 7 days, pray two one (1) sentence prayers during your day.**