

1. Prayer is keeping _____ with God.

And the Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness. For example, we don't know what God wants us to pray for. But the Holy Spirit prays for us with groanings that cannot be expressed in words. Romans 8:26 (NLT)

"Lord, teach us to pray..." Luke 11:1 (NLT)

2. Prayer _____ my perspective.

Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and wonderful results. James 5:16 (NLT)

Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up in honor. James 4:10 (NLT)

"Be still, and know that I am God." Psalms 46:10 (NLT)

3. Prayer is the _____ for freedom.

Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. Psalms 139:23 (NLT)

Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted there by the devil. For forty days and forty nights he fasted and became very hungry. Matthew 4:1-2 (NLT)

Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ. This will continue until we all come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God's Son that we will be mature in the Lord, measuring up to the full and complete standard of Christ. Ephesians 4:11-13 (NLT)



1. Prayer is keeping <u>COMPANY</u> with God.

And the Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness. For example, we don't know what God wants us to pray for. But the Holy Spirit prays for us with groanings that cannot be expressed in words. Romans 8:26 (NLT)

"Lord, teach us to pray..." Luke 11:1 (NLT)

2. Prayer <u>CORRECTS</u> my perspective.

Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and wonderful results. James 5:16 (NLT)

Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up in honor. James 4:10 (NLT)

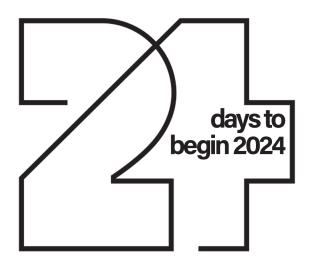
"Be still, and know that I am God." Psalms 46:10 (NLT)

3. Prayer is the <u>CATALYST</u> for freedom.

Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. Psalms 139:23 (NLT)

Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted there by the devil. For forty days and forty nights he fasted and became very hungry. Matthew 4:1-2 (NLT)

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS JANUARY 28, 2023 "KEEPING COMPANY"

[CONNECT]

Did you ever have prayers you learned when you were little? Do you remember any of them?

[ENGAGE]

What impacted you the most personally from the message?

[GROW]

What does prayer mean to you? Does prayer make you think of certain rules and ways you "have to" do it? Sometimes we bring baggage from our past around something like prayer. Is there anything like that for you?

Read Luke 11:1-4.

- Even though the disciples grew up in a very religious way, they wanted Jesus to teach them to pray. Why do you think they wanted that?
- What do the different parts of Jesus prayer teach us?

The first point of the message was about "keeping company" with God. When you think of "keeping company" with someone, what comes to mind? How would you keep company with God?

Does it bring you peace know that God simply wants to be with you, or does it make you nervous or anxious? Dig a little deeper and ask why you feel that way?

Have you ever been someplace that corrects your perspective and makes you feel in awe of God? What was it? God doesn't want us to feel insignificant, but He does want us to see Him and know Him fully. Read Psalm 46:10. What would it take for you to "be still" and know Him?

[LEAD (YOURSELF)]

How will you embrace this 24 day challenge? How can you make a plan to engage in these 4 things...

- Read the Bible
- Pray
- Fast
- Reflect