

Journey CHURCH

Pastor James Greer

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Life on Mission – Leader Guide Session Six: Pray

MEMORY VERSE: “And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord’s people. Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.” (Ephesians 6:18-20)

If we are on a mission to connect, serve, share and grow, doesn’t it make sense that we should stay in communication with the One who is sending us out? The One who knows far more than we do and is able to help us accomplish that mission? Prayer is how we stay connected to God, and is the source of our power and strength. Finding God’s heart for the world starts with prayer because it moves us from our perspective to His perspective. It allows us to invite God into our concerns, needs, and desires, but it also makes us realize that our compassion and care for our neighbors is only a hint of what God feels toward them. Without God’s help, which we access through prayer, our mission will surely fail. Instead of prayer being the last thing we do after we have exhausted all other means, let’s put it front and center where it belongs. Prayer is a central, persistent means to bring God’s power to bear on every life we touch. We cannot live life on mission without it.

Discussion Questions

- 1) When you face stress, grief, or challenge, do you respond by praying? Why or why not?
- 2) How can you begin to make prayer a habit or reflexive reaction to times of both difficulty and joy? In other words, how do you build a habit of prayer?
- 3) If you had to highlight one thought from the DVD teaching, what would it be? Why?
- 4) Tell the group about a time someone prayed for you in a moment of need, and you felt God’s presence more powerfully as a result?
- 5) How do you respond to Bo Chancey’s idea that, in their church, they “pray for one”? What do you think that means?

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- 6) When you pray for an unbeliever or for someone whose spiritual condition you really don't know, what are you expecting God to do?
- 7) Do you ever find yourself drifting away from communication with God? How does that impact your ability to live life on mission?
- 8) Several of the teachers in this session have highlighted the power of corporate prayer. What experiences have you had with the power of prayer with other Christians?
- 9) Let's talk about Shan Moyers' question: "What if you are where you are right now - your neighborhood, your job, the gym that you work out at - what if you are where you are right now not by chance, but by divine assignment?"
- 10) In what ways has your own prayer life been challenged by this session's teaching?
- 11) Pastor Mike Baker mentioned the quote from Hudson Taylor that has motivated his prayer life: "It's possible to move men by God through prayer alone." Tell about a time you saw this demonstrated in your own life.