



SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

"Why Do We Pray?"
Philippians 4:6-7

SERMON NOTES

Record your insights & observations from this week's sermon.

GOOD BOOKS ON PRAYER

Whole Prayer by Walter Wangerin, Jr.

Pray with Your Eyes Open by Richard Pratt

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1) Prayer is worship. We speak to God as we respond to Him speaking to us through His Word. Read *Acts 2:42; 1 Corinthians 14:16; 1 Timothy 2:1-2*. How do these passages describe corporate worship?
- 2) Read the Lord's Prayer in *Matthew 6:9-13*. How does the prayer start out? How does it finish? Why is it important to keep our prayers God-centered?
- 3) One way to pray to God is by adoration. We acknowledge how wonderful He is. Read *Psalms 148* and pray a prayer of adoration to God.
- 4) Confession is a key component in our prayers. Confessing our sins reminds us of God's unconditional love for us and how we should turn away from our sin. Read *Psalms 51* and spend some time confessing your sins specifically to God.
- 5) We owe everything to God, and we must give Him thanks. Read *Psalms 107:8-9* and take some time to thank God for everything that comes to mind.
- 6) Prayers of supplication are requests to God for something to happen. Read *Philippians 4:6-7*. What are you anxious about? What requests do you need to lay before God? Spend some time praying to Him about these requests.

FOR YOUR FAMILY

- 1) Memorize *Philippians 4:6-7*: "*Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.*"
- 2) Read the Lord's Prayer in *Matthew 6:9-13* and talk about what each statement means to your children. Teach them this prayer and pray it together.
- 3) Spend time teaching your children the ACTS prayer model: **adoration, confession, thanksgiving, supplication**. Explain why this is one good model to pray and pray with your family.