

Searching for God's Glory

WEEK THREE
Matthew 6:5-15



DON'T STRESS ABOUT ANYTHING

"In everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving."

Leaders: Take your group through each section: Pray, Reflect, and Reach. Keep in mind the time allowances. In the Reflect section, feel free to focus on several of these questions instead of all as time allows.

If you have a daughter, the time will come when some little shmuck is going to ask you if he can date her. Of course, we want that day to come but even more than that, we want it to be the "right guy."

How will you handle that moment? What questions will you ask to make sure he is the right guy? One question you want to ask for sure is, "What prayers has God been recently answering in your life?" Don't let him off the hook with vague prayers like, "God, I pray you would bless the universe." They need to be specific requests with specific answers. This will tell you at least two things. First, whether or not his relationship with God is living. Is there a stream of answered prayer in the present? Second, what his priorities in life are. You can tell by what he asks God for.

Answered prayer is one of the most amazing opportunities we have as Christians. Prayer connects us with the living God in living ways. It reveals that He is engaged in our lives and not only has the ability but also the desire to answer our petitions. Answered prayer is the primary pipeline through which God glorifies Himself. Jesus made this point over and over again to His disciples. Remember, everything in your life depends upon prayer.



WATCH

Play the video prepared for this lesson by Pastor Derek Neider. Video sessions are available for download at www.cclasvegas.org/GROUPS



PRAY (10 min)

As a Home Group, take a moment and share how God has been answering prayer in your life. Give God thanks. .



REFLECT (25 min)

As you've had the opportunity to reflect on what God has spoken to you through the lesson this week, consider these questions as a group and discuss them together.

1. Sometimes knowing what to pray for is difficult. Jesus gives us the model prayer as a guideline to direct our times of prayer.

What were the categories laid out in the model prayer that Pastor Derek mentioned? How are you going to incorporate this into your prayer time?

"Prayer is the key conduit through which God desires you to experience and express His glory."

DEREK NEIDER



2. Jesus connected answered prayer to the glory of God. In fact, He told His disciples that it was through answered prayer that God would glorify Himself, and that this was the purpose for their lives.

Consider the answered prayers in your life. Specifically, how have answered prayers in your life been an opportunity for God to manifest the beauty of His holiness (who He is)? *Be specific.*

“If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. 8 By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.”

JOHN 15:7

3. In this week’s sermon, Pastor Derek said that we should be specific, expectant, persistent and thankful when it comes to praying.

- Make a list of 3-5 specific prayers.
- Add the date that you began praying and leave a space for the date when God answers.
- Apply these four principles mentioned in the sermon.

“Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father. And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask anything in My name, I will do it.”

JOHN 14:12-14

The one concern of the devil is to keep Christians from praying. He fears nothing from prayerless studies, prayerless work, and prayerless religion. He laughs at our toil, mocks at our wisdom, but trembles when we pray.”

SAMUEL CHADWICK



REACH

Considering what God revealed to you this week, take steps in prayer like you’ve never taken before. Expect God to work.

Next week we will be anxiously waiting to hear about how God revealed His glory through answered prayer.

