

### Lesson 3 Prayer

*This week you We focus on the need for Prayer. It is We communicate with Jesus as Savior and Lord*

10 minutes **Pastoral Care.** Spend about 15 mins going around and asking How are you doing this week? Any thing we can help you with or Pray for? Highlights and challenges.

5 minutes **Worship Time,** If you are up top it sing a song of Thanksgiving or Prayers of thanks, Use this time to Honor and worship God in Some way.

10 minutes **Accountability:** Go around and ask each person how they are doing with refining thier Story over the past week. Has anyone benn able to share it outside the group with someone?

Did they Pray over their Oikos? (those they want to share to) Encourage each no matter what the outcome was to follow up this week.

. 5 minutes **Vision Casting Vignette: For Sharing our relationship With Jesus to those around us.**

**Read this Vignette out loud in your Group**

**Yiang Kai Shares:** *Raising the Sails for the Wind of the Spirit*

In the old days, sailboats had no motors – they relied on the wind. When large sailing ships were becalmed, they went nowhere. One thing sailors did in times of calm was to take every square inch of sailcloth and hang it from as many masts and yard-arms as possible. *They could not make the wind blow, but they could be ready for the wind when it did blow.* Failing to put up the sails would mean they were going nowhere when the wind did blow.

Spirit of God is described as a wind in John 3:8. We cannot make Him blow; He blows where He will. We cannot create movements, only the Spirit of God can. But we *can* posture ourselves, raise the sails of kingdom-oriented ministry, so that when He does blow, we are ready to move forward. Human-dependent programs are no sails at all. T4T is one process that is helping us raise the types of ministry sails that can move with the blowing of God's Spirit.

The good news is this: the Spirit of God is blowing everywhere! He waits for us to posture ourselves to move with Him. He is not blowing at the same velocity everywhere, but He is blowing.

**Let's raise the sails!**

### 30 minutes 5. New Lesson:

20 minutes **6. Practice the Lesson: on the next couple of pages.** In a circle **Read aloud** the Session on the next couple pages, One person per segment.

Actually take time this week to go through the questions and answer them as a group. Remember practicing using the **TOOLS** enables us to be familiar with them. The more familiar we are with them the easier it is using them.

### 10 minutes 6. Practice you story:

Have the group break into 2's. Preferably with some one they have Not practised with before. Have them give their story to the other and then each encourage each other with some positive feed back.

### 10 minutes 7. Set goals and pray:

#### Goals for this week

Refine & Practice Your Story and 3 Circles. Next week we practice the 3 Circles together.

1) Practice the **3 Circles** at least 2 times each day. Place a copy on your bathroom Mirror (Or Men above the throne) and ... **Practice!** A Practice Guide is posted on the Church Website, Down load it to your phone, print it, etc.. [www.leducalliance.org/discipleship/ministries/d4d/3circle...forsmart phone.pdf](http://www.leducalliance.org/discipleship/ministries/d4d/3circle...forsmart phone.pdf)

2) Practice **your Story** Once each day.

3) Set a goal to Pray Each Day!

**Close in a time of Prayer** remembering the highlights and Challenges we started with earlier. Remember to Pray for leading of the Holy Spirit to Share our story to Our Oikos and to whom those the Holy Spirit prompts.



*Remember Its not always the most Important to go though and answer every question or story in the lesson. What is here is to help you convey understanding of the concept. **Always** be sensitive to time, and where the disciple is at in their walk. You can always tailor the material to the individual,group or time available.*

## Session 3—Prayer

- BEGIN BY PRAYING TOGETHER
- LIST A HIGHLIGHT FROM LAST WEEK & CHALLENGE YOU ARE FACING

Highlight

Challenge

_____	_____
_____	_____

- YOUR BAPTISM?** Has Everyone taken the Step of Baptism? If not, then Discuss it with your group leader soon. (Leaders Ask the question and be sensitive to any who have not, take time after to ask them their thoughts and time table as to when they would like to)



Prayer is often misunderstood. Prayer is simply talking with God. Your body position (i.e. bowing your head and folding your hands) is not important. Learning how to talk to the Lord as your Father is an important next step in your faith.

Read the following and describe Jesus' prayer life:

- 1) **Mark 1:35 (NLT) Before daybreak the next morning, Jesus got up and went out to an isolated place to pray.**

**Matthew 14:23 (NLT) After sending them home, he went up into the hills by himself to pray. Night fell while he was there alone.**

**Luke 5:16 (NLT) But Jesus often withdrew to the wilderness for prayer.**

**Luke 6:12 (NLT) One day soon afterward Jesus went up on a mountain to pray, and he prayed to God all night.**

How would you describe Jesus' prayer life?

- 2) **Hebrews 4:16 (NLT) So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it most.**

How can we approach God and what will we receive if we do?

- 3) **Matthew 6:6a (NLT) But when you pray, go away by yourself, shut the door behind you, and pray to your Father ...**

To whom do we pray?

- 4) **John 16:24 (NLT) [Jesus said], "Ask, using my name, and you will receive, and you will have abundant joy."**

In whose name (authority) do we approach the Father?

- 5) **Romans 8:26 (NLT) 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.**

Who helps us pray?



We pray to the Father, in the authority of the Son, as the Holy Spirit helps us.

- 6) **Philippians 4:6b-7 (NLT) pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. <sup>7</sup> Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.**

What will you experience if you pray instead of worrying ?

- THE DISCIPLES ASKED JESUS, "LORD, TEACH US TO PRAY." HERE IS WHAT HE TAUGHT THEM:

**Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors. And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen. Matthew 6:9-13 (NKJV)**

7) **Hebrews 11:6a (NLT) And it is impossible to please God without faith.**

What attitude should we have when we pray?

8) **Psalm 66:18 (NLT) If I had not confessed the sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened.**

9) **1 John 5:14–15 (NIV84) This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. <sup>15</sup> And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him.**

When does God give you what you ask for?

This is a great example to help us understand and to use The Lord's Prayer as a guide.

Phrase	Meaning
<b>Our Father in heaven</b>	Jesus taught us to pray to God as our Father. You can even call Him, "Dad" or "Daddy" or "Papa."
<b>Hallowed be Your name</b>	Begin your prayers by praising and thanking the Lord. Think of specific things for which you can be thankful.
<b>Your kingdom come</b>	Pray for the people in your life who are far from God.
<b>Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven</b>	Pray for the areas in your life where you are struggling to obey God. Ask God to help you obey Him.
<b>Give us this day our daily bread.</b>	Tell God your needs: physical, financial, emotional, relationship and spiritual needs.
<b>And forgive us our debts (sins)</b>	Confess your sins to the Lord. Thank Him for the forgiveness He has provided through Jesus.
<b>As we forgive our debtors (those who have sinned against us).</b>	Ask the Lord to help you forgive those who have hurt you.
<b>And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one.</b>	Ask the Lord to lead you away from temptation and to protect you from the evil one and his lies.
<b>For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.</b>	End your prayer by praising the Lord for all He has done for you.
<b>Amen.</b>	The word Amen means "may it be so."

## II. Three Answers to Prayer

Yes Green Light You can proceed.

No Red Light You cannot proceed.

Wait Yellow Light God does not respond, so you must be patient.

**III. The Content of Prayer:** Draw a line between the verse and the correct description of prayer.

Praise: praise God's nature 1 John 1:9

Thanksgiving: thank God for his grace Philippians 4:6-7

Ask: ask God to meet your own needs Psalms 135:3

Intercession: ask God to meet the needs of others 1 Thessalonians 5:19

Confession: confess your sins to God 1 Timothy 2:1

**More thoughts on Prayer:** When a baby has just been born, it needs to breathe. So we teach them how to pray. Praying is like breathing for our spiritual life. In prayer, it is most important to pray according to God's will. It's not for what I want, you know, it's for God's will. So in lesson 4, we teach them what God's will is.

**There are 3 different types of prayer for God's will.**

1. What God has commanded us to do. This is what God has already determined; it can never be changed by what or how a person prays (e.g. love your neighbor as yourself). the first is when God has already made the decision. Or its contrary to Scripture or God's Very nature. When you pray, nothing changes. It's like when God says that only by Jesus' name can we be saved, but you say, "No, I don't like that. Please give me another name that can save people." It will not change. Everybody is born one time, but you say, "No, I don't want this, I want to be born another time." It will not change. Whatever you pray, it will not change.

**Discuss the above.**

**The second type of prayer for God's will** is when our will may not be good, but we ask and ask and ask and finally God says "okay" and lets us do it, but we need to take responsibility

**.2. What God allows.** Sometimes if we plead with God, He will allow us to receive something, but we should be responsible for what we receive (not God's ideal for us).

It's like Abraham. God gave him a promise: your children will be numbered on the earth like the stars in the heaven and the grains of sand on the earth. But he thought he was too old. He still didn't have a son. So he took Hagar, and Hagar became like his second wife. God did not stop him. But he had to

take responsibility. When the son came, Ishmael, I think the family lost peace. There was no peace, and Hagar started to argue with Sarah. After 40 years, God's provision came. Sarah's son, Isaac, was born, and the family was broken. They did not allow Ishmael to stay. They let him go. So the family was broken. Until now, the whole world has no peace because of that. The 2 families are still against each other.

**So, we have to pay the price for our actions.** It's like children. If they want to learn how to use a knife to cut an apple, you say, "No, no, no you are too young." But he says, "No, I want to try." You say, "No, you are too young, you will hurt yourself.", but he says, "No, no, no I want to try." He asks time and time again, so you say, "Okay, be careful, though." Then he comes back crying, "I cut my finger." So we help him, heal him, but we're still mad at him. You say, "I told you before, but you wanted to do it anyway. So I allowed you to do it. But now you need to pay the price." It's like King Hezekiah. Isaiah told him, "You need to live well, because you are going to die." He said, "No, I don't want to die." Everyone remember? He turned toward the Lord and said, "Lord, I worship you, I walk with you, I don't want to die." So God talked to Isaiah and gave King Hezekiah another 15 years. Did he become more honorable, more successful? No.

If you read the Bible, in those 15 years, he did not succeed but actually failed in two ways. One was when he was so happy from being healed, the enemy sent a messenger to say, "Congratulations on God healing your sickness." Hezekiah was so happy that he opened the whole country and the enemy could view everything. So Isaiah came to him and said, "Because you did this, your country will fail." The second failure was in the son that was born to him that last 15 years. Manasseh became king when he was only 12 years old. This king was the worst king in the whole history of the country. He even killed Isaiah. So, sometimes we ask, and maybe God allows us to do it, but it is not in his good will, and you pay.

**Discuss the Above.**

**The third kind is praying according to God's will. 3. What is pleasing to God. (Romans 12:2)** In James, it says, "You did not get what you wanted because you didn't pray. You didn't get what you wanted because you didn't pray according to God's will." So we need to ask of God according to His will. We need to learn how to find out about God's will from the Holy Spirit. Read the Bible, and it will teach you to know what you need to do. That's important. If you pray according to God's will, you can get anything you want from God.

**Discuss the Above.**

So you tell your new believers, "Prayer is talking to God." We should pray every day. Don't say, "Today I have time to pray, but tomorrow I don't have enough time to pray." or "Today I need some prayer, but tomorrow everything will be okay, so I won't need prayer." No. Pray every day. Every day, okay? ***It's like breathing. Do it every day.***

#### IV. The Three-Fold Will of God

##### V. New Attitudes Resulting From Prayer

###### Attitude ~ Verse

Have faith "But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt."  
(James 1:6)

Have the right motivation "You do not have, because you do not ask God.

When you ask, you do not receive because you ask with the wrong motives. (James 4:2-3)

Confess our sins "If I cherish sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened." (Psalm 66:18)

Ask according to His will "This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us." (1 John 5:14)

Pray with a faithful heart "They should always pray and not give up."  
(Luke 18:1)

4. Pray in a natural and understandable manner; avoid babbling.

5. Pray at any time of the day and at any place. There is no limit on the time and place of prayer.



##### A SSIGNMENT FOR Next Time:

1. Continue to Prctise your Story and the 3 Circles Gospel presentaion.
2. Spend time each day in prayer. Pray through the Lord's Prayer the way you have learned today.

CLOSE IN PRAYER TOGETHER