MISSION REFRESH '25 | INDIVIDUAL MISSION

Date: September, 2025

Text: VARIOUS

WELCOME

I love you.

Open your bibles to: (1 Timothy 4:7, CSB)

A. TEXT

Train yourself in godliness. 8 For the training of the body has limited benefit, but

godliness is beneficial in every way, since it holds promise for the present life and also

for the life to come...

B. RECAP & INTRO

A regular, normal, boring, life that's given to daily investments in prayer and the bible, will

cause us to respond to the gospel as we ought to with our heart, soul, mind, and strength.

C. CULTIVATING WORSHIP WITH PRAYER & SCRIPTURE

C1. PRAYER FOR WORSHIP

Simeon is called "righteous and <u>devout"</u>, which is another way of saying he's careful and

intentional to honor and obey God and His law, which in the temple at the time included

at least two times of daily prayer.

He's also described as one who is "looking forward to Israel's consolation (2:25)"; ie; the

promises of the gospel.

Anna is described as a prophetess who was "looking forward to the redemption of

Jerusalem" and "did not leave the temple, serving God day and night with **fasting and**

prayers.(36-38)"

So two characters who are walking out are trusting in God and loyal to God in the midst of delay are characterized by what regular practice?

PRAYER.

(Matt. 6:9-10, BLT)

Pray like this: Our Father in the heavens

(that phrase itself lends itself to the promises of God; Yahweh "fathered" Israel and promises to bring the blessings to them.

Then the prayer to the Father is that he would bring all of the promises and would thus vindicate his name in the sight of all the nations

(CSB, "Your name be honored as holy", BHT, may the holiness of your name be vindicated", NET, "may your name be honored"), your kingdom

(the one promised to David in 2 Samuel 7)

) **come,** your will be done, **on earth as it is in heaven.**

For Jesus, prayer starts here; setting our hopes on the promises of the covenants; creating worship in us.

And then prayer also strengthens that second component of worship, *allegiance to God*, in the meantime while we wait for those promises to come to pass.

(Da 6:10, CSB)

10 When Daniel learned that the document had been signed, he went into his house. The windows in its upstairs room <u>opened toward Jerusalem</u> (the locus, the epicenter of God's promises coming to pass), <u>and three times a day he got down on his knees</u>, <u>prayed</u>, and gave thanks to his God, <u>just as he had done before</u>.

So when we pray in this way, with our hearts tuned to the promises of God, our hearts come alive to trust God for his promised future and to remain loyal to Him alone while we wait.

C2. SCRIPTURE FOR WORSHIP

(Ro 15:4-5, CSB)

4 For whatever was <u>written in the past</u> (the Tanahk, the Older Testament, where God makes the promises) <u>was written for our instruction</u>, so <u>that we may have hope</u> (trust in things we don't yet see; all nations blessed, the dead raised, every tear wiped away.

(NLT, "as we wait patiently for God's promises to be fufilled.")

God's means for your heart to worship Him, trusting him between now and the resurrection is to read the Tanak.

We will not worship God as we ought to without a life of prayer & scripture.

D. CULTIVATING DISCIPLESHIP WITH PRAYER & SCRIPTURE

D1. PRAYER FOR DISCIPLESHIP

(Matthew 6:9-13, NLT)

...you should pray like this:...give us today the food we need...and forgive us our sins...don't let us yield to temptation, but rescue us from the evil one.

Walking through the wilderness of this age towards the promised land requires God to

- give us daily manna,
- daily grace and power,
- requires that we walk in repentance and forgiveness,
- and that God keeps us from yielding to temptation to give in to the evil one.

In his obedience unto death, where is Jesus found?

On his knees, in a garden, in prayer.

(Mt 26:39, CSB)

...he fell facedown and **prayed**, "My Father, if it is possible, let <u>this cup</u>pass from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will."

(Php 1:9-11, ESV)

9 And it is <u>my prayer</u> that your <u>love</u> may abound more and more, with <u>knowledge and</u> <u>all discernment</u>, 10 so that you may approve what is excellent, and so <u>be pure and</u>

blameless) for the day of Christ, 11 filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

D2. SCRIPTURE FOR DISCIPLESHIP

(Psalm 1:1-6, ESV)

Blessed is the man <u>who walks</u> not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands <u>in the way</u> of sinners...2 but (what sets his path apart from the wicked?) <u>his delight is in the law of the LORD</u>, and on his law (what's he do?) he <u>meditates</u> (and when does he do it?) <u>day and night</u>. 3 He is like a tree planted by streams of water that <u>yields its fruit</u> in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers. 4 The wicked are not so, but are <u>like chaff</u> that the wind drives away. 5 Therefore the wicked will not stand (when? On the Day of the Lord) <u>in the judgment</u>.... 6 for the LORD knows <u>the way</u> of the righteous (the way of those who meditate on God's law day and night), but the way of the wicked will perish

It's the bible that sets us on the narrow path and keeps us there, daily instructing us.

But with God's word, we have clear instructions on how to walk through most of life. With God's word, we have what we need to be disciples.

E. CULTIVATING EVANGELISM WITH PRAYER & SCRIPTURE

E1. PRAYER FOR EVANGELISM

(Ac 4:31, CSB)

31 When they had prayed, the place where they were assembled was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak the word of God boldly.

E1. SCRIPTURE FOR EVANGELISM

(2 Co 5:10-11, CSB)

10 For we must all appear before <u>the judgment seat of Christ</u>, so that each may be <u>repaid for what he has done</u> in the body, whether good or evil. 11 Therefore, <u>since we</u>

know the fear of the Lord, (because we've read and heard and read and heard) we try to persuade people.

F. PLANNING TO PRAY & READ

1) SCHEDULE IT

Modern life has totally monopolized your time and attention. And if you won't schedule your life, someone else will.

- 2) HAVE A PLAN
- 3) TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE GAPS
- 4) DON'T QUIT

The response to not eating is to eat!

G. THE HABITS ARE NOT THE POINT

The desire is not that we pray and read for prayer and readings sake.

The point is what these habits produce in us, in times of hardship, and injustice, and trial, and tribulation, the disciple that's been regular in seeking the Lord and regularly eating at the Table of his word, will respond with worship, and discipleship, and evangelism.