

Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church



Growth Track:

RED WORD PRAYERS

Four Small-Group Bible Studies

Growth Track: Spiritual Disciplines



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Growth Track: RED WORD PRAYERS
Four Small-Group Bible Studies

Growth Track: Spiritual Disciplines

PARTICIPANT GUIDE

Primary theme:

Prayer as communion with God, surrender to God, dependence upon Christ, and participation in God's mission.

Structural note:

The five prayer themes have been arranged into four studies by combining Gethsemane and the cross under the shared theme of surrendered obedience amid suffering.

“Prayer does not fit us for the greater work; prayer is the greater work.”

—Attributed to Oswald Chambers

Series Outcomes

By the end of the series, participants should be able to:

- Observe how Jesus prays in different circumstances.
 - Explain the theological significance of Jesus' prayers.
 - Identify how prayer forms Christian character.
 - Practice prayer shaped by Scripture rather than circumstance alone.
 - Take concrete steps toward dependence, forgiveness, unity, and faithful endurance.
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PARTICIPANT GUIDE

Read: Matthew 6:9–13, KJV

After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

NOTICE

What words or phrases stand out to you?

What does Jesus place before personal requests?

DISCUSS

- What does it mean to pray for God's name to be honored?
- Where are you tempted to rely on yourself rather than God?
- What kind of forgiveness do you need to receive or extend?

GOSPEL CONNECTION

Because of Jesus, I do not pray as an outsider trying to gain God's attention. I pray as one invited to approach the Father through grace.

THIS WEEK

I will pray through one petition of the Model Prayer each day.

My specific plan:

PRAYER

Father, hallowed be Your name. Teach me to desire Your kingdom, trust Your provision, receive Your forgiveness, and walk in Your protection. Amen.

STUDY TWO: PRAYER OF THANKS AND REVELATION

PARTICIPANT GUIDE

Read: Matthew 11:25–26, KJV

At that time Jesus answered and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes.

Even so, Father: for so it seemed good in thy sight.

NOTICE

What does Jesus thank the Father for?

What kind of person receives God's truth?

DISCUSS

- What makes humility difficult?
- How can knowledge become a barrier to obedience?
- What truth about God are you thankful to understand?

GOSPEL CONNECTION

Jesus is the Son who reveals the Father. I do not discover God by personal achievement; I receive God's grace through Christ.

THIS WEEK

Each day I will write:

One truth I learned about God:

One reason for gratitude:

One response of obedience:

PRAYER

Father, make me teachable. Remove pride from my heart, help me receive Your truth, and make my gratitude stronger than my need for control. Amen.

STUDY THREE: Prayer for Peter's Faith and Restoration

PARTICIPANT GUIDE

Read: Luke 22:31–32, KJV

And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat:

But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.

NOTICE

What does Jesus know about Peter?

What does Jesus pray for Peter?

What does Jesus expect Peter to do after restoration?

DISCUSS

- Where are you tempted to trust your own strength?
- How does it encourage you to know that Jesus intercedes for His people?
- How can your past failure, redeemed by Christ, become a source of ministry?

GOSPEL CONNECTION

My security is not based on the strength of my promises to Jesus but on the faithfulness of Jesus toward me.

THIS WEEK

A trial I will bring honestly to Jesus:

A person I will encourage:

A truth I will remember:

Prayer

Lord Jesus, thank You for praying for Your people. Preserve my faith, restore me when I fall, and use my life to strengthen others. Amen.

STUDY FOUR: Surrender in Gethsemane and Trust at the Cross

PARTICIPANT GUIDE

Read: Matthew 26:39, KJV

And he went a little farther, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt.

Luke 22:42, KJV

Saying, Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done.

Luke 23:34, KJV

Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.

Luke 23:46, KJV

And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, he said, Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit: and having said thus, he gave up the ghost.

NOTICE

What does Jesus honestly ask for?

What does He ultimately surrender?

What does Jesus do toward His enemies?

DISCUSS

- What desire do you need to bring honestly before God?
- What is the difference between forgiveness and pretending nothing happened?
- How does the cross make surrender possible?

GOSPEL CONNECTION

Jesus surrendered Himself for sinners. Because of His faithfulness, I can bring my pain honestly to God and entrust my life to Him.

THIS WEEK

My honest request:

My surrendered outcome:

My next faithful action:

A person or situation I will place into God's hands:

PRAYER

Father, teach me to pray honestly and surrender faithfully. Thank You for the cross, where Jesus bore sin, extended mercy, and trusted Himself to You. Amen.