

# PRACTICE

Cornerstone Church  
Thad Harless // May 5, 2024  
Mark 14:32-42 (Matthew 26:36-44; Luke 22:39-46)

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**James 1:22 says, “Do not merely listen to the Word of God,  
and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.”**

## **TALK ABOUT IT**

1. Read Mark 14:32-42. Why do you think the disciples were sleeping? What do you think might have happened if they stayed awake and watched and prayed?
2. When have you been the most distant and/or disconnected from the Lord’s plan, like the disciples were in the garden? What was the result?
3. Read Deuteronomy 4:7, Colossians 4:2, Ephesians 6:18, Philippians 4:6-7, and Matthew 7:21-23. Which part of these verses challenges, encourages, or helps you the most, and why?
4. Read the verses in question 3 again and talk about the area you need to grow in prayer.
5. Pastor Thad gave 4 questions for reflection. Which one challenges, encourages, or helps you the most, and why? \*Does prayer matter to us? Are we fervent in prayer? \*Do we pray in the context of a relationship? \*Do we invite friends to pray with us? \*Do we have faith in God’s ability to answer and to answer perfectly?

# PRACTICE

Cornerstone Church  
Robbie Challinor // April 28, 2024  
Matthew 6:1-15

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James 1:22 says,

“Do not merely listen to the Word of God, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.”

## **TALK ABOUT IT**

1. What is your experience with rote or written prayers? What is the most impacting thought you've heard in your life about the Lord's Prayer?
2. What attitudes and beliefs about God are reflected in the Lord's prayer?
3. Read Matthew 6:1-8. How have the Pharisees corrupted the disciplines of giving to the poor and of prayer? How does it contrast with genuine compassion for the poor and with those who pray sincerely?
4. Read v. 8 again. If our Father knows what we need before we ask, why pray? How does this compare to "praying" (talking to/asking) to a good, earthly father?
5. What spiritual disciplines are valued in your circles? Do you tend to err on the "flashy" side like the Pharisees or do you avoid such disciplines as praying, fasting, or giving altogether?
6. Read 6:9-13. What bad habits have you picked up in prayer? What do you want to do to grow out of this habit?

# PRACTICE

Cornerstone Church  
Scott Linebrink – Water Mission & Men's Game Feed Speaker

Philippians 1:1-11

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This week's Sermon Discussion is prayer based, from Philippians 1:1-11

**TALK ABOUT IT**

1. What was your main takeaway from this week's devotional message from our guest speaker, or his message from the Game Feed?
2. Shifting gears back to Prayer Month, read Philippians 1:1-11. From v. 3, when you remember your Life Group or your church, what would you pray about, and why? Pray those things together now for your group and for our church.
3. Read v. 9-11 again. Note the things Paul prays for...

\*that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight

\*that you may be able to discern what is best

\*that you may be pure and blameless

\*that you may be fruitful in all you do

\*that all you do may lead to the glory and praise of God

Which of these does our group/our church/you need prayer for the most? It's good to pray for our personal needs. It's also good for us to pray "heart targeted" prayers for each other like these.

4. How does Paul's prayer in Philippians 1 impact your love for your group and for your church?
5. How are these prayers in Philippians 1 similar or different to what/how we pray now? What changes in prayer for my group and my church am I willing to make in how/what I pray for?



Cornerstone Church // Pastor Thad Harless  
Prayer Month 2024

The Practice of Prayer: How Do I "Hear" God? // April 14, 2024

**Discuss this week's sermon, with the desire to apply God's Word to your heart and life:**

**TALK ABOUT IT**

1. Praying Scripture

\*1 Peter 1:3-9            \*13-16            \*17-22

Pair up in your group—take around 10 minutes to do this. Do it longer if you would like. Read one or more of these passages, and then pray it for each other and one other person. After praying together, discuss who would be impacted the most if you prayed these verses for them? How can/do these verses increase your fervency in prayer? Frequency?

*OTHER SUGGESTED PASSAGES to read and pray for yourself and others:*

*Colossians 2:6-9, 3:5-10, 3:12-17*

*Psalms 145:1-7; 8-13; 14-21*

2. Read John 15:1-17 all together. Make a list as you go of what the Lord does or is doing in this passage. You may find 10 or more things. Look for verbs.
  
3. Then do the same and make a list of what we are to be doing. You may find 10 or more things. Note what 3 things we are to “abide” in. You could also note which of these things are we more passive/receiving and which are we to be active/pursuing.
  
4. What is your main takeaway from this discussion and this week's message?



**PRACTICE**

**Discuss this week's sermon, with the desire to apply God's Word to your heart and life:**

**TALK ABOUT IT**

1. Read James 4:7-10. It is written to us who are:
  - resistant to God
  - distant from God
  - double-minded
  - submissive to the devil
  - sinners
  - proudful

How has/does prayer help you obey the instructions in these verses?

2. Read Isaiah 6:1-8. What part of this vision of the Lord has the most impact on you right now? Does this vision draw you to God and stir you to talk to Him in prayer? Why or why not?

3. Read Isaiah 6:1-8 again, with the following message guide notes:

- \*Isaiah's vision of God revealed God's holiness
- \*Isaiah's vision of God's holiness led to a proper view of himself
- \*Isaiah's vision of God's holiness revealed his falling short of holiness
- \*Isaiah's vision of God's holiness leads to his humility
- \*Remember God's holiness. This will produce humility and our ability to hear God

How does this vision of God's holiness lead you to a proper view of yourself?

Describe/explain?

4. Read Isaiah 6:1-8 again, but this time out loud and in unison. Read from the New International Version because most people have it. Pray together, telling our great God something that you appreciate about Him or make you awestruck with Him. Pray to Him the end of verse 8, telling Him that you are here to be led by Him and be sent by Him.