

Life Group Bible Study

Title: *More Than One Way to Pray*

Theme: Prayer as Relationship, Not Manipulation

Purpose of the Study

- To reshape how we think about prayer
 - To experience prayer as relationship, not a transaction
 - To explore different biblical expressions of prayer
 - To encourage participation in the season of prayer (63-hour relay)
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1. Welcome & Icebreaker (10 minutes)

Icebreaker Question (pick one):

- When you hear the word *prayer*, what's the first thing that comes to mind?
 - Growing up, how was prayer modelled for you—formal, casual, urgent, awkward, joyful?
 - On a scale of 1–10, how comfortable do you feel praying out loud?
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2. Ask, Seek, Knock – Expanding Our View of Prayer (15 minutes)

Read together:

Matthew 7:7–11

ASK – Prayer as asking God for needs, help, wisdom, provision

Discussion:

- What are we usually comfortable asking God for?
 - What do we hesitate to ask for? Why?
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SEEK – Seeking revelation, clarity, direction, God Himself

Discussion:

- What's the difference between seeking *answers* and seeking *God*?
 - Have you ever sensed God revealing something as you waited or searched?
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KNOCK – Desire for Access & Intimacy

- Knocking implies persistence and a desire to *enter in*

Discussion:

- Where in your life do you feel like you're "knocking" right now?
- What might it look like to keep knocking instead of giving up?

👉 Key takeaway: **Prayer flows from trust, not technique.**



3. Prayer vs. Manipulation (10 minutes)

Teaching Point:

- Secular culture often seeks to manipulate spiritual power to get desired outcomes.
- Biblical prayer is an **invitation to relationship**, not a way to control God.

Discussion:

- How can prayer subtly become a “means to an end”?
- What happens to our faith when prayers aren’t answered the way we hoped?

Reframe Prayer As:

- Invitation to relationship
 - Conversation
 - Drawing near
 - Abiding / remaining
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4. Intercession – Standing in the Gap

Read one example (or assign different groups):

- **Abraham** – Genesis 18:22–33
- **Moses** – Exodus 32:9–14
- **Ezekiel** – Ezekiel 22:29–31

Discussion:

- What do these intercessors have in common?
 - What does it mean to “stand in the breach” today?
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5. Prayer Activation (15 minutes)

- 2–3 minutes of quiet personal prayer (asking/seeking)
- 5 minutes of intercession for others, the church, or the city
- Close with thanksgiving

👉 Keep it low-pressure. No forcing people to pray out loud.

6. Challenge & Send-Off (5 minutes)

- Sign up for a shift in the **63-hour prayer relay**
- Try a new way of praying this week (listening, interceding, journaling, walking prayer)

Close with encouragement:

God is not reluctant.
He’s not distant.

It’s His good pleasure to give you the kingdom. (Luke 22:13)