

Membership † **Discipleship** † Leadership

John 13:34-35 *"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."*

I am a disciple of _____.

"A follower of Jesus Christ who studies the scriptures and diligently seeks to comply with what God commands." Jesus said "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed." (John 8:31)

"Pray Attention II"

† Proverbs 4:7 *"Wisdom is the principal thing; Therefore get wisdom. And in all your getting, get understanding"*

When faced with certain circumstances, we're told to pray. Few people explain that prayer extends beyond verbal communication. Prayer is also expressed through action. James 1:22 warns us to not deceive ourselves into thinking that we can hear the word but not do the word. As you pray according to His will, you'll find that His will is in His word. If it's a prayer of thanksgiving, it's because of something that He has done. If it's a prayer of confession, it's because of something that we have done. Whether it's a prayer of petition or intercession, we have an expectation from God. Likewise, God has an expectation as well. When the women went to the tomb where Jesus was, they went expecting to find death but instead they found life. I don't care what has died; through the power of prayer you can find life in the midst of it. If you've lost a love one – pray. If you've lost a job – pray. If your marriage died to divorce – pray. If your dream died – prayer still works. Pray, activate your faith, and wait on God to resurrect it. Death is no match against God's will. We understand that faith without works is dead. Therefore, prayer without active faith has no power. When you pray, you must believe God for an outcome that would be pleasing to Him. Your daily prayer time with God is birthed from your relationship with Him (Matt. 6:7-8). It should never be viewed as some religious formality. It's committed and consistent communication that shall produce results! Throughout the Bible, where you find prayer, you'll witness victorious outcomes. There are countless testimonials about the power of prayer. Hannah prayed from her heart and it was assumed that she was drunk because her voice was not heard. Despite the assumptions of others, God answered her prayers (1Sam. 1). Regardless of the place, posture or purpose of your prayers, God has His ear to those who speak to Him in sincerity. God examines the heart. The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results (James 5:16). Peter said "In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality." (Acts 10:34). 1 Thessalonians 5:17 says to pray without ceasing. Would that be possible if we were overwhelmed by limitations? We should always pray and not lose heart (Lk. 18:1).

"My house shall be called a house of Prayer!"

† Romans 12:2 “. . . be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”

Place: As Cornelius was fasting, he prayed in his house. His prayers were heard and his contributions towards others were remembered in the sight of God (Acts 10:30-31). Anna served God with fasting and prayer in the temple (church) night and day (Luke 2:36-38). Remember Paul and Silas prayed while in prison. Doors were open and chains were loosed. They were asked “*what must I do to be saved?*” (Acts 16:25-30). And Jesus prayed in solitude (Mk. 1:35, Lk. 5:16).

Posture: We should not limit our prayers due to physical position. Pray with holy hands lifted up to God, free from anger and controversy (1 Tim. 2:8). And whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him, that your Father in heaven may also forgive you (Mk. 11:25). Jesus laid hands as he prayed a blessing over the children (Matt. 19:13-15). Paul also laid hands as he prayed and many received healing (Acts 28:8). Solomon Stood and kneeled with his hands stretched towards heaven (1 Kings. 8:22, 54). Daniel’s custom was to pray on his knees three times a day (Dan. 6:10). Jesus prayed with His face to the ground (Matt. 26:39) and He knelt to pray (Lk. 22:41). Whether you’re standing, sitting, kneeling or lying down, seek God in prayer!

Purpose: There are several types of prayers that we should find balance in practicing. The ultimate goal is to ensure that your prayers have purpose. This week, search the bible daily for different examples of prayers in these areas:

- Confession (for God’s forgiveness) _____
- Intercession (for the needs of others) _____
- Petitions (for our individual needs) _____
- Thanksgiving (praise & worship to God) _____
- Meditation (listening to God’s response) _____

† Psalm 119:11 “Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You.”

Day/ Week of	Daily Reading	What verse had the most impact?
Monday <input type="checkbox"/>	Psalms 71-75	
Tuesday <input type="checkbox"/>	Psalms 76-80	
Wednesday <input type="checkbox"/>	Psalms 81-85	
Thursday <input type="checkbox"/>	Psalms 86-90	
Friday <input type="checkbox"/>	Psalms 91-95	
Saturday <input type="checkbox"/>	Psalms 96-100	
Sunday <input type="checkbox"/>	Psalms 101-105	

Submit questions to MCCquestions@yahoo.com

