

Life-Giving Prayer August 28th, 2016

May the Lord bless Onesiphorus and all his family because he visited me and encouraged me often. His visits revived me like a breath of fresh air. - 2 Timothy 1:6 LB

THE DOLDRUMS

- When we've drifted away
- When we've <u>neglected</u> the basics
- When we've lost our <u>purpose</u>

ENJOYING PRAYER

One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When He finished, one of his disciples said to him, 'Lord, teach us to pray...' - Luke 11:1 NIV

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one, for yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. - Matthew 6:9-13 NIV

1. CONNECT WITH GOD <u>RELATIONALLY</u>.

You have not received a spirit that makes you fearful slaves. Instead, you received God's Spirit when he adopted you as his own children. Now we call him, "Abba, Father." - Romans 8:15 NLT

2. RUN TO <u>HIS NAME</u>.

God's name is a place of protection—the righteous can run there and be safe. - Romans 18:10 MSG

3. Pray <u>His agenda</u> first.

But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. - Matthew 6:33 NIV

4. DEPEND ON HIM FOR EVERYTHING.

I look up to the mountains—does my help come from there? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth! - Psalm 121:1-2 NLT

5. KEEP YOUR <u>HEART RIGHT</u>.

Don't let evil conquer you, but conquer evil by doing good. - Romans 12:21 NLT

6. <u>Take your stand</u> against the enemy.

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes...And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers... - Ephesians 6:10-11,18 NIV

7. <u>Have faith</u> in God's ability.

This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him. - 1 John 5:14-15 NIV

My Next Step This Week...

- Memorize *Romans 8:15*.
- Commit to Crosswind Prayer Week September 11th-16th.
- □ Refresh my soul with Life-Giving Prayer every day.
- Give my life to Jesus as Savior and Lord, for the first time.

WALK THE TALK A Growth Group Guide

- 1. Do you know someone who has a tendency to fall asleep in Church? Do you get sleepy while driving on a road trip? What do you do to stay awake?
- 2. Read Hebrews 2:1-4. What spiritual danger are the Hebrews in? What historical events is he asking them to look at to regenerate a more passionate faith? Why are these events so significant?
- 3. Read aloud the "Lord's Prayer," above, as a group prayer. Why do you think the Church has been praying this prayer so often? Has it ever lost its punch in your own life? Why?
- 4. When you look down through the seven ways of "Enjoying Prayer," which one breathed fresh air back into your soul? Explain.
- 5. When you pray, do you like using written prayers, or do you use a prayer outline or follow a devotional book? What is the best time you find to really commune with God?
- 6. Which Scripture above really spoke to you and what did it challenge you to do?