

# DIGGING DEEPER



## Prayer as Our Foundation

Jan 4, 2026

This message invites us into a transformative understanding of prayer as the very foundation of our spiritual lives, not merely a last resort when trouble strikes. Drawing from 1 Thessalonians 5:17-18 and John 15:5, we're challenged to see prayer not as a formal religious duty but as continuous conversation with God throughout our day. Just as we stay connected with those we love through ongoing communication, our relationship with God thrives when we remain in constant dialogue with Him. The powerful imagery of a vine and branches reminds us that apart from Christ, we can accomplish nothing of eternal value. Like a phone that needs daily charging or a branch that withers when severed from its source, our spiritual vitality depends entirely on maintaining this connection through prayer. The message beautifully illustrates how prayer often changes us before it changes our circumstances, aligning our hearts with God's will rather than bending God's will to our desires. When we pray as Jesus taught His disciples in the Lord's Prayer, we surrender our agendas and ask for God's kingdom to come and His will to be done. This isn't about getting what we want, but about becoming who God wants us to be. The call to pray together as a community amplifies this power, building unity and reminding us that we're all in need, all growing, and all dependent on God's grace together.

<p>01. How does the concept of prayer as a foundation rather than a fallback challenge your current prayer habits, and what practical steps could you take to make prayer more foundational in your daily life?</p> <p>03. The sermon compares prayer to charging a phone daily rather than waiting until the battery is at 2%. What areas of your spiritual life are you letting run dangerously low before seeking God's power?</p> <p>05. The mission statement emphasizes being 'a community where everyone can experience and reflect the love of Jesus.' How well do you think you personally reflect Christ's love to others in your daily interactions?</p> <p>07. The sermon states that communication is essential to relationships, using marriage as an example. If your relationship with God were evaluated based solely on your prayer life, what would it reveal about the health of that relationship?</p> <p>09. Jesus promises that where two or three gather in His name, He is there among them. How might this promise change the way you approach corporate prayer or small group prayer times?</p>	<p>02. In what ways have you experienced prayer changing you before it changed your circumstances, and how did that transformation align your heart with God's will?</p> <p>04. Jesus taught His disciples to pray 'May your will be done' rather than focusing on their own desires. How difficult is it for you to surrender your agenda to God's will in prayer, and why?</p> <p>06. When you face overwhelming days or exhaustion, do you instinctively pause to pray for peace and strength, or do you try to power through on your own? What does your default response reveal about your trust in God?</p> <p>08. How does praying together with other believers build unity in ways that individual prayer cannot, and when was the last time you experienced this kind of shared prayer?</p> <p>10. The Values statement 'in every moment, prayer' suggests continuous communion with God throughout the day. What would it look like for you to maintain an ongoing conversation with God as naturally as texting someone throughout your day?</p>
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### Remember...

"Many times prayer changes us before it changes our circumstance, gives us new perspective. A toddler asks for what they want, and the parent gives them what they need."