

**LESSON #9**  
**EXPERIENCING PRAYER**

**INTRO:**

- Prayer is one of the most \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ expressions of the Christian faith.
- Our prayer lives will naturally evolve as we mature in our faith; prayer \_\_\_\_\_ is also crucial.
- The combination of education and experience is vital to embrace the fundamentals and develop wholehearted prayer practices.

**CORE PRINCIPLE** – Pray from the \_\_\_\_\_

- Psalm 62:8
- There is no special formula or specific words.
- There are prayer models, but they are intended to help us get our hearts right with God as we pray.
  - ACTS
    - \_\_\_\_\_
    - \_\_\_\_\_
    - \_\_\_\_\_
    - \_\_\_\_\_
  - 3 A's
    - Adoration
    - Alignment
    - Ask
- Those who are facing difficult circumstances are often eager for help and \_\_\_\_\_.
- Your prayers are likely to mean more to people than you imagined.
  - Romans 12:12
  - 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18
  - James 5:16b

**CARE CONSIDERATIONS**

- \_\_\_\_\_ about Prayer
  - There are many reasons why people don't pray regularly.
  - It can be helpful to normalize people's struggles and share your own:
    - \_\_\_\_\_.
    - \_\_\_\_\_.
    - Helpful \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Recognize that people have a lot of questions.
  - Knowing that people have questions, dare to start the conversation.
    - It is a great way to engage in a meaningful dialogue.
    - It fosters \_\_\_\_\_ relationships.
    - It fosters \_\_\_\_\_ growth.
- \_\_\_\_\_ to Pray.
  - Guidelines/suggestions:
    - Indicate an \_\_\_\_\_ in praying.

- Ask \_\_\_\_\_ to pray.
  - Ask if it is okay to \_\_\_\_\_.
- Pray \_\_\_\_\_
  - Ephesians 3:16-21
  - Isaiah 41:10
  - Philippians 4:6-7
  - Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV)
 

<sup>11</sup>For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. *(use the practice space below to personalize a prayer from Jer. 29:11)*
- Be \_\_\_\_\_ and Persistent.
  - Imagine being one prayer away from a miracle.
  - We need to be reminded that God "is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine." Eph. 3:20
- Examples and Perspectives
  - The Gospels indicate that Jesus:
    - \_\_\_\_\_ on His face and prayed.
    - Went \_\_\_\_\_ and prayed.
    - \_\_\_\_\_ and prayed.
  - We are confident in \_\_\_\_\_ abilities.
  - We try to manage life on our own apart from God.
  - Let's encourage the people to make prayer their \_\_\_\_\_, not last, resort.
  - Let's join them in prayer and remember:
    - We can't over-pray. But...
    - We can overthink.

### KEY POINTS

- Start the \_\_\_\_\_
  - Knowing that prayer can be confusing for many Christians:
    - \_\_\_\_\_ about prayer.
    - \_\_\_\_\_ praying.
  - Prayer training can be life changing.
- Pray \_\_\_\_\_
  - Be intentional about hearing both spoken and \_\_\_\_\_ prayer requests.
  - Be \_\_\_\_\_ about praying with and for people.