

I Am a Church Member (2025 Edition): Praying & Serving

Key Thoughts

1. **Prayer is communication with God.**

It isn't performance or ritual; it's honest conversation that builds relationship (Matthew 6:5-8).

2. **Private prayer deepens intimacy with God.**

Jesus said, "Go into your room... and pray to your Father" — He values sincerity over showmanship (Matthew 6:6).

3. **The Lord's Prayer is a pattern, not a script.**

Each phrase teaches dependence, forgiveness, and submission to God's will (Matthew 6:9-13).

4. **Serving is the natural overflow of prayer.**

A heart aligned with God's heart through prayer will act with His hands in service (Mark 10:45).

5. **Jesus models humble service.**

Though equal with God the Father, He took the form of a servant and gave His life for us (Philippians 2:5-8).

Discussion Questions

1. What area of your life suffers most when communication breaks down?

How might prayer restore that relationship?

2. Why do you think Jesus instructed private prayer?

What distractions compete for your focus when you try to pray?

3. Which part of the Lord's Prayer challenges you most today, submission, forgiveness, or dependence?

4. How does prayer shape your attitude toward serving others?
 5. Jesus served by giving up status, comfort, and reputation.
What would it look like for you to follow His example this week?
 6. When have you seen prayer and service work together to change a person, home, or ministry?
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Applications

1. **Daily Connection:**

Commit to five intentional minutes of private prayer each day. Use that time to ask, *“Lord, how can I serve You today?”*

2. **Active Service:**

Find one tangible way to serve this week — in your home, your church, or your community, without seeking recognition.

3. **Encouragement:**

Pray for and thank someone who quietly serves at Sunrise. Send a note or text reminding them that their service reflects Christ.

Closing Prayer

Father, teach us to pray with sincerity and to serve with humility.
Align our hearts with Yours, that our words and actions would both glorify You.
Make us a praying and serving people, not for applause, but for Your kingdom.
In Jesus’ name, Amen.