

## Extraordinary Study Guide – Week 3

**Main Point:** Prayer is being with God – not so much to get something as it is to become something.

1. Prayer. How were you taught to pray as a child? Describe how your habit of prayer is different as an adult or is it? Praying at meals, bedtime, etc.
2. Read Mark 11:12-14. Why did Jesus curse the tree? When a fig tree grows leaves, it also grows figs. Jesus saw the leaves and expected fruit. When others see Christ followers, what do you think they expect to find?
3. Read Mark 11:15-17. Why was Jesus so upset about what was going on in the temple? How can we apply that to our personal walk with Christ?
4. Read Mark 11:22-25. What stands out to you in these verses about prayer? Why is verse 25 so important for us?
5. Read Galatians 5:19-23. Where do you see the Holy Spirit bringing these fruits/characteristics in your life? For instance, is he trying to teach you to be kinder, more patient, etc? Are you asking God to help you in these areas?
6. Think about the three phases of “moving from”. Describe these “moving froms” in your own life.
  - a. Darkness to light
  - b. Living beneath my potential to growing in light
  - c. Simply growing to passing on to pouring out to others
7. Read Act 2:42. Why do you think, “teaching, fellowship, sharing in meals (communion), and prayer are so important to us and the church? Prayer is the connection, **being with God not so much to get something, as it is to become something**. Are you spending time in prayer? How we live is the evidence. Why? So that the world will know that Jesus Christ is truly the hope of the world.

Through out history, spiritual movements have been birthed through prayer. Perhaps your group can join others across all campuses to commit to pray, every day for those who will be attending our Easter services who have yet to know Jesus Christ. Wow! Get ready to watch God move.

If you are looking for ideas on how to improve your prayer time go to the Cypress app resources. Look at "She Reads Truth" and "He Reads Truth" both have great plans for prayer. Here is another way to begin or change up your pray time.

- Always begin with praising God for who He is. He is the creator of all things – lots to say there.
- Admit our sins and ask for forgiveness.
- Thank Him for all He has done for you. Have a heart filled with gratitude.
- Make your requests known to Him.

Wondering what to pray about? Here are some suggestions to get you started:

- Mondays, pray for particular requests from your family.
- Tuesdays, pray for requests of those in your small group. Pray for those taking their Next Steps.
- Wednesdays, pray for Pastor Ken and church staff.
- Thursdays, pray for requests of those whom you interact with during the day. (a great way to show Christ to others outside our walls)
- Fridays, pray for salvation for unbelievers you know.
- Saturday, pray for those leading us in worship, bringing God's word and the countless volunteers.
- Sunday, pray for what people heard will take root in their hearts.

***This can be the beginning of an EXTRAORDINARY journey.***