

# RHYTHMS



ELLIOT JONES

THE PRACTICE OF PRAYER

APRIL 14TH, 2024

“<sup>5</sup> Then, teaching them more about prayer, he used this story: ‘Suppose you went to a friend’s house at midnight, wanting to borrow three loaves of bread. You say to him, <sup>6</sup> ‘A friend of mine has just arrived for a visit, and I have nothing for him to eat.’ <sup>7</sup> And suppose he calls out from his bedroom, ‘Don’t bother me. The door is locked for the night, and my family and I are all in bed. I can’t help you.’ <sup>8</sup> But I tell you this—though he won’t do it for friendship’s sake, if you keep knocking long enough, he will get up and give you whatever you need because of your shameless persistence.

<sup>9</sup> And so I tell you, keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you. <sup>10</sup> For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened.”

~ LUKE 11:5-10 (NLT)

## 1 – HOW TO PRAY

Make it a \_\_\_\_\_.

“<sup>3</sup> In the morning, LORD, you hear my voice; in the morning I lay my requests before you and wait expectantly.” ~ PSALM 5:3 (NIV)

“<sup>17</sup> Pray continually.” ~ 1 THESSALONIANS 5:17 (NIV)

Have a \_\_\_\_\_.

“<sup>35</sup> Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed.”

~ MARK 1:35 (NIV)

Have a \_\_\_\_\_.

“<sup>1</sup> Once Jesus was in a certain place praying. As he finished, one of his disciples came to him and said, ‘Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.’ Jesus said, ‘This is how you should pray...’”

~ LUKE 11:1-2 (NIV)

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## 2 – PRAYING FOR YOUR RELATIONSHIPS

Pray for your \_\_\_\_\_.

Pray for your \_\_\_\_\_.

“ **16** *The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.*”~ **JAMES 5:16b (NKJV)**

Pray for your \_\_\_\_\_.

## 3 – PRAYING FOR THE LOST

Pray for their \_\_\_\_\_.

Pray for \_\_\_\_\_ faith.

“ **10** *Two men went to the Temple to pray. One was a Pharisee, and the other was a despised tax collector. **11** The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed this prayer: 'I thank you, God, that I am not like other people—cheaters, sinners, adulterers. I'm certainly not like that tax collector! **12** I fast twice a week, and I give you a tenth of my income.' **13** 'But the tax collector stood at a distance and dared not even lift his eyes to heaven as he prayed. Instead, he beat his chest in sorrow, saying, 'O God, be merciful to me, for I am a sinner.' **14** I tell you, this sinner, not the Pharisee, returned home justified before God. For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.'”*

~ **LUKE 18:10-14 (NLT)**

## DISCUSSION Questions:

COMMUNITY GROUP VIDEOS *available on the APP* |      

- 1 - What is your favorite time of day to pray? If you don't have one... when do you think would be the ideal time for you?
- 2 - Where is your favorite place to pray? If you don't have a favorite, where do you think would be your ideal place?
- 3 - Have you ever considered having a "prayer plan?" What are some things or areas of life that you feel deserve daily attention in prayer?
- 4 - When is the last time someone asked you to pray about something for them? Did you do it? For how long? What was the result?
- 5 - When was the last time you prayed for something for yourself? Did God answer?
- 6 - Re read Luke 18:10-14. What do you think the role of humility is in prayer?
- 7 - Read Luke 11:5-10. What do you think the role of persistence is in prayer?

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