

"I'm In" - Prayer

September 3, 2026

I'm In.

Leo Loughmiller • September 6, 2026 • "I'm In" - Prayer

Big Idea: Prayer is where the mission of Jesus becomes personal.

1. Let God shape your heart.

*"Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven."
(Matthew 6:10)*

Prayer isn't primarily about getting God aligned with my plans. Prayer aligns my heart with His.

"To pray is to change. Prayer is the central avenue God uses to transform us." - Richard Foster

*"Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you."
(Matthew 5:44)*

Before prayer changes what's around us, it often changes what's within us.

2. Put people in your prayers.

"I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people... This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all people to be saved and to come to a

knowledge of the truth.” (1 Timothy 2:1-4)

Pray for people because God cares about people.

If we’re serious about 2 by 30, prayer can’t be a decoration around our strategy; it has to be the foundation beneath it.

“This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us.” (1 John 5:14)

“The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.” (James 5:16b)

Prayer doesn’t manipulate the heart of God, but prayer matters to the heart of God.

“Devote yourselves to prayer... And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message... Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should.” (Colossians 4:2-4)

3. Keep showing up in prayer.

“Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.” (Luke 11:9)

The power of prayer is not found in the perfection of the prayer. It is found in the person of Jesus.

“...I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you.” (John 15:16)

Reflect: Who have you been tempted to stop praying for because you’ve stopped believing anything can change?

Persistent prayer isn’t putting pressure on God. It’s placing our dependence on God.

“I have built the altar, and laid the wood in order, and have

**prepared the offering; I have only to wait for the fire.” -
Evan Roberts**

We prepare the altar. God sends the fire.