

A PRAYING LIFE

What is the series about?

In this short series we'll be looking at what it looks like to have a praying life. Whatever our background or worldview most of us have at one time or another prayed. You may have been in a desperate situation or just thrown out a few words in vague hope. Over the summer we'll see what the Bible teaches us about prayer today.

Listen to the audio

On the King's Norwich app or at: kingsnorwich.com/aprayinglife

Check out the blog

kingsnorwich.com/blog

Recommended Reading

A Praying Life

Paul Miller



A PRAYING LIFE

Title: Consistent Prayer

Speaker: Toby Skipper (City Centre and City West) Bible Ref: 1Thess 1:2-3

Overview

How do you describe your prayer life? One of the ways that we may have described the apostle Paul's prayer life was consistent - he not only encourages others to pray continually (*1Thess 5:17*) but models it himself. Prayer is shot through both of his letters to the Thessalonians (and his other letters); his was a praying life. In this he was following the Master and we too are called to walk the same way. But what does it mean to be consistent in prayer? What does 'praying always' actually look like? How do we grow in it without beating ourselves over the head with 'must pray more' and 'could do better'? In these verses we find encouragement that can help us grow in our consistency in praying.

Questions to help your group understand the truth preached

On Sundays we hear God's word preached and as we listen well we trust that God is changing us in the moment. Use these questions to further explore the truth that was taught.

1. How would you define prayer? (Jesus teaching/life/death and the psalms are a good place to start)
2. What did Paul mean when he said he prayed continually & always? (Also see 5:17)
3. Why is it important to develop 'A praying life' as part of what it means to be a disciple of Christ?

Questions to help your group apply the truth preached

When applied, God's Word will enable us to love God and to love others. These questions will help your group apply the truth understood in a way that leads to transformed lives.

1. How does praying with others help us grow in consistency? (Where can we do this?)
2. In what way is our deep care for others linked to our consistency in praying?
3. How does having a growing awareness of our dependency on God as our Father help us develop a praying life?

Questions to help your group dig deeper

Having understood the truth preached, and explored how it can be applied to your lives why not dig a little deeper and ask your group the following questions:

1. When Jesus taught his disciples to pray he gave them what's become known as 'The Lord's Prayer' (Mat 5:5-15). What do we learn from his teaching that helps us develop a praying life?