

## Main Street Church - Life Group Questions

Message: February 15, 2015. **ALL ACCESS** – Part 3 – Devoted to Prayer



### Open with Prayer

“Jesus – thank you for bringing us together as a Group. We invite You to TEACH US TO PRAY LORD, so that we grow in our relationship with You and each other. Amen.”

### Connect ::

What is one thing you appreciate about being in community with God’s people?

### The importance of commitment, attendance and participation:

“Pastor Eryn would like to encourage everyone in a Life Group to refresh & engage their commitment to their life group over the next few months before the summer break (July/August). Our expectation is that life group members attend 75% or more of the time, and when having to miss a group, communicate the reason well enough in advance so that the leader/host can adjust plans if necessary. When you miss group, you miss out and the group misses out on your investment in that community. There are people waiting to connect in a life group, so consider your connection in your group with great value and priority, or be willing to step back and open that spot up for others.” Thank you.

### Check In (Note: Don’t skip over this)

:: What has God been showing/speaking to you about in your personal time with Him?

:: What are you doing to feed yourself spiritually during the week (outside of Sunday and Life Group)?

:: How can we as a group encourage one another to spend intentional time with Jesus?

: Devotional ideas (Prayer booklets...), Bible Reading Plan, Accountability, Encounter God...

### Sunday Message Feedback :: ALL ACCESS – Devoted to Prayer

What jumped out at you from Sunday’s message?

Which particular point or passage of Scripture most challenged, confused or caught your attention?

What did Jesus say to you to you this past week through the message?

1. In one word, describe your prayer life this year so far? Why that word? Discuss.  
(amazing, refreshing, dry, boring, inconsistent, frustrating, non-existent, growing...)

2. Read **1 Thessalonians 5:11-22** (\*vv.17-18) and **Colossians 4:2-6**

These verses describe two types or forms of prayer:

1:: **Continual Prayer** - “Never stop praying.” This is living in the constant awareness of God’s presence and learning to talk with Him all throughout your day and in all circumstances.

2:: **Intentional Prayer** – “Devote yourself to prayer.” This is the “get in your private place, by yourself, focused time of prayer with God.”

:: Which kind of prayer do you tend to be more active in? Why?

3. Read **Matthew 6:5-6** -- What jumps out at you from Jesus’ teaching on prayer in these verses?

4. Read the following the statement to your group that pastor Shawn said:  
***“The Devil has used God’s command to ‘pray continually’ to keep many of God’s children from following His command to ‘pray intentionally.’ We have settled for one type of prayer and have ignored learning the discipline to ‘go away, by yourself, shut the door and pray.’”***  
Do you agree with this statement?
5. Why is it so hard to carve out specific time to “devote ourselves to prayer?”  
Why is hard for you, personally? Share.
6. What do you think would happen in our lives/families/jobs/church if we committed to following Jesus instructions of spending focused time with God in prayer? Discuss.
7. How do you think an intentional time with God would impact your continual prayers to God? Discuss.

### **APPLICATION & PRAYER:**

What is one thing you can share with your group that you will do to become more intentional in creating a prayer time with Jesus? Share it with your group and ask them to hold you accountable.

- One idea is to **put Jesus in your calendar**.  
We commit to appointments with everyone else in our lives, why not make a daily appointment with God and stick to it like you would a friend, boss or business contact.
- Use the SCOOP method (next page) in your personal time with Jesus. This will help you stay focused.

## **SCOOP: Getting more from your daily time with God.**

The SCOOP method is mentioned in most of our Prayer/Devotional booklets.

**S – Scripture:** Read a passage of Scripture from your Bible Reading plan or one of the Main Street Devotionals available in the lobby or from our church APP. Memorize or review a verse that jumps out at you.

**C – Confession:** Confess any sin that the Holy Spirit reveals to you from your Bible reading. Ask Him to show you any other areas of sin that you need to take care of. Confess your sin and receive His forgiveness.

**O – Observation:** Write down the things the Holy Spirit shows you in the Scriptures you have read in regards to:

- Your mind: **ASK** - Lord is there something you want to teach me?
- Your heart emotions: **ASK** - Lord where do You want to encourage me and fill me with joy? Do You have a comforting word or a promise that you want to show or remind me of?
- Your will: **ASK** - Lord is there a command that you want me to obey? Is there a warning for me to heed? Is there an instruction for me to apply? Is there an area I need to align my life with what You are saying in Your Word?

**O – Obedience:** Write down what you will do in response to what He has showed you.

**P – Prayer:** Pray that you will follow through on what He showed you today. Pray the Scriptures. Pray for yourself, friends, family members, Church & ministry. **Journal your conversation with God.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

### February-March 2015

:: **The Alpha Course** - Pray for the 65+ people (Volunteers & Guests) who are attending Alpha this season.

### Sun. February 22

#### :: **Prayer Summit**

: Bring your Life Group and join us for Worship, Communion & Prayer. 6pm-7:30pm in the Main Street Auditorium.

: Includes our Kids Summit Program – with teaching, prayer and fun activities for ages 2-11.

### Sun. March 1

#### :: **BAPTISM Celebration**

: For information and application visit [www.mainstreetchurch.ca/baptism](http://www.mainstreetchurch.ca/baptism) : Join us at 6pm in the Main Street Auditorium to celebrate!

### Fri&Sat. May 1-2

:: **ENCOUNTER GOD Retreat** – Register Now! [www.mainstreetchurch.ca/encountergod](http://www.mainstreetchurch.ca/encountergod)