

Teach Us to Pray
January 11, 2026
Heartland Christian Center
Senior Pastor, Dr. Phil Willingham

Luke 11:1–4 “One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When He finished, one of His disciples said to Him, ‘Lord, teach us to pray.’”

- Everything Jesus did flowed out of His PRAYER life.
- Jesus did not do ministry INSTEAD of prayer—He did ministry BECAUSE of prayer.

1. Prayer Begins With RELATIONSHIP

- “Father...”
- A. Prayer is not about impressing God.
It’s about CONNECTING with Him.
- B. Prayer is not a speech we deliver to God; it is a CONVERSATION we have with Him.

2. Prayer Centers on God BEFORE Ourselves

“Hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come”

- A. A praying church is a church that says,
“God, what do You want to do IN us and THROUGH us?”
- B. When a church prays like this, it shifts from Control to TRUST.

3. Prayer Is DAILY Dependence

“Give us each day our daily bread.”

- A. This shows us that prayer is not a one-time event.
It’s a DAILY lifestyle.

4. Prayer SHAPES Our Hearts

“Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us.”

- A. Prayer isn’t only about changing SITUATIONS—it’s about changing US.

5. Prayer Is About TRUST

“And lead us not into temptation.”

- A. Prayer reminds us that we cannot WALK this life alone.

Action Points

1. Make Prayer Personal
2. Start With God, Not Requests
3. Practice Daily Dependence
4. Let Prayer Shape Your Heart
5. Seek God’s Guidance Daily
6. Move From Occasional Prayer to a Prayer Lifestyle
7. Pray Together as a Church