

## *All This Matters*

*There's So Much More To Following Jesus*  
May 22, 2022

Daily habits & practices of being a Jesus follower. A disciple.

Disciple: *a student who accepts & spreads the teachings of someone famous*

**Matthew 28:19** Go & make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father & the Son & the Holy Spirit. 20 Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you...

Disciples are followers who are looking for direction from their Master

Come - Near to Jesus; Hear - Pay Attention; Do - Obey, Practice

**1 Timothy 4:7b** ...train yourself to be godly.

### *3 Tips for Training &/or Spiritual Practice:*

1. Create space in our life for listening to God's mission (Our journey).
2. Partner w/ the Holy Spirit to be present w/ God.
3. The more that we "do it" and show up, the easier it gets.

As disciples of Jesus, we regard Prayer at a high importance & worth:

- \*Every Sunday gathering after music
- \*9@9 pre-service prayer time
- \*Every Thursday 12pm-1pm

*If or when most of us pray, it's because of either tradition or crisis.*  
*Prayer has to be a part of our lifestyle*

**Matthew 26:36** Jesus went w/ them to the olive grove called Gethsemane & He said, "Sit here while I go over there to pray." 37 He took Peter & Zeb's two sons, James & John, & He became anguished & distressed. 38 He told them, "My soul is crushed w/ grief to the point of death. Stay here & keep watch w/ Me." 39 He went on a little farther & bowed w/ His face to the ground, praying, "My Father! If it's possible, let this cup of suffering be taken away from Me. Yet I want Your will to be done, not Mine." 40 Then He returned to the disciples & found them asleep. He said to Peter, "Couldn't you watch w/ Me even one hour? 41 Keep watch & pray, so that you will not give in to temptation. For the spirit is willing, but the body is weak!"

*Many of us fall into temptations because of a lack of consistent prayer!*

Prayer is a spiritual exercise; Can't be in shape exercising once a week.

*We can't get "prayed up" at the last minute.*

It's what we do consistently that produces positive results.

**1 Thessalonians 5:17 AMP.** Be unceasing & persistent in prayer; 18 in every situation, no matter what the circumstances, be thankful & continually give thanks *to God*; for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus.

\*\*\**(Smith Wigglesworth) "I never pray more than an hour, but I never go more than an hour without praying."*

What if our church culture, our rally cry was to: **PRAY FIRST!**  
*(in the morning, spouse, kids, job, meetings, bills, sickness, etc.)*

\*Prayer is our **first response**, not our **last resort**. **(Tweet that!)**

**Luke 18:1** Jesus told His disciples a story to show that they should *always pray & never give up*. 2 "There was a judge in a certain city, who neither feared God nor cared about people. 3 A widow came to him *repeatedly* saying, 'Give me justice in this dispute w/ my enemy.' 4 The judge ignored her for a while, but finally he said to himself, 'I don't fear God or care about people, 5 but this woman is driving me crazy. I'm going to see that she gets justice, because she is wearing me out w/ her constant requests!'" 6 Then the Lord said, "Learn a lesson from this unjust judge. 7 Even he rendered a just decision in the end. So, don't you think God will surely give justice to His chosen people who cry out to Him day & night? Will He keep putting them off? 8 I tell you; He will grant justice to them quickly! But when the Son of Man returns, how many will He find on the earth who have faith?"

**Luke 11:1** - "Once Jesus was in a *certain place* praying. As He finished, one of His disciples came to Him & said, '**Lord, teach us to pray...**'"

**Luke 11:5** 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, 6 ‘A friend of mine has just arrived for a visit, & I have nothing for him to eat.’ 7 & suppose he calls out from his bedroom, ‘Don’t bother me. The door’s locked for the night, my family & I are all in bed. I can’t help you.’ 8...though he won’t do it for friendship’s sake, if you keep knocking long enough, he’ll get up & give you whatever you need because of your *shameless persistence*. 9 “So, keep on asking, & you’ll receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, & you’ll find. Keep on knocking, the door will be opened to you. 10 Everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. Everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. 11 “You fathers-if your children ask for a fish, do you give them a snake? 12 If they ask for an egg, do you give them a scorpion? Of course not! 13 If you sinful people know how to give gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him.”

*\*\*Lord, I’m praying for a passion for prayer in all of our hearts here at Kings Circle. Both for our personal lives & our church. God we can’t ask for what you’ve called us to do as a church & individually unless we **pray first**. I pray for people here today, if this kind of freaks them out, or they think it’s just too hard, help them see just how simple it is. And they would be encouraged & inspired to simply walk in step w/ You..*