

Maximizing my God Time



Session 2

Men's Ministry

Harvest Bible Chapel

February 20, 2010

Today's Session

- ▣ Review of Session 1
- ▣ Prayer from God's Perspective
- ▣ Our Relationship with God and Prayer
- ▣ Homework and Resources

Maximizing my God Time Class

- ▣ Session 1: Bible Reading and Study
- ▣ Session 2: **Prayer**
- ▣ Session 3: Memorization and Meditation
- ▣ Session 4: Remembering and Sharing

The Big Ideas

- ❑ *It is my joy to possess and read the Word of God*
- ❑ *I have the privilege of speaking with my heavenly Father in prayer*
- ❑ *I can fill my mind with the truths of God's Word as I meditate*
- ❑ *I have the opportunity to build up other believers through sharing what I have received during my times with God*

Quiet Time

A “Quiet Time” is time invested in:

- ▣ Learning from God through His Word
- ▣ Acknowledging my dependence on the Lord and bringing my concerns before His throne
- ▣ Challenging and correcting my thinking
- ▣ Preparing to remind myself and encourage others about God’s goodness

Memory Verse Review

"Your _ _ _ _ _ were found, and I _ _ _ them,
and your _ _ _ _ _ became to me a _ _ _
and the _ _ _ _ _ of my _ _ _ _ _,
for I am _ _ _ _ _ by your _ _ _ _ _,
O LORD, God of hosts."

Jeremiah 15: 16
ESV

Memory Verse Review

"Your words were found, and I ate them,
and your words became to me a joy
and the delight of my heart,
for I am called by your name,
O LORD, God of hosts."

Jeremiah 15: 16
ESV



The Foundation of Prayer

“And without faith
it is impossible to please him,
for whoever would draw near to God
must believe
that he exists and
that he rewards
those who seek him.”

Hebrews 11:6
ESV

Group Exercise

- ❑ Bible Reading follow-up
 - Do you have a plan?
 - Were you able to be consistent?
 - Did you share something that you learned with someone else?

- ❑ What are your challenges in prayer?
 - Praying out loud? In groups?
 - Staying focused?
 - Promising to pray, but forgetting?

Prayer

"The LORD is far from the wicked,
but he hears the prayer
of the righteous."

Proverbs 15:29
ESV



Prayer

- ❑ Misconceptions about Prayer
 - God needs our prayers
 - We force God to act

- ❑ Right attitudes in Prayer
 - Acknowledgement
 - Submission
 - Dependency



God's Perspective

- He desires to hear our prayers
 - Proverbs 15:8; Psalm 34:15; John 4:23
- Prayer is like an incense offering
 - Psalm 141:2; Revelation 5:8, 8:3, 4
- His Holy Spirit helps us
 - Galatians 4:6; Romans 8:26

Our Relationship with God

- 1 O LORD, you have searched me and known me!
- 2 You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.
- 3 You search out my path and my lying down
and are acquainted with all my ways.
- 4 Even before a word is on my tongue,
behold, O LORD, you know it altogether.
- 5 You hem me in, behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me.
- 6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is high; I cannot attain it.

Psalm 139:1-6
ESV



Some Practical Thoughts

- ❑ What does it mean to:
 - Pray “in Jesus’ name”?
 - Pray without ceasing?
- ❑ Content, Style and Organization
 - Time, posture
 - Praying scripture
 - Songs and hymns
 - Spontaneous or planned?

Personal Exercise

- ❑ Write out a prayer
- ❑ Try to include:
 - Adoration and thanksgiving
 - Dependence
 - Requests for yourself and others
- ❑ Can you write “in Jesus’ name”?

Memory Assignments

- ❑ Continue working on Romans 12
 - Keep reading it out loud 2 times each day
 - Try to make it smooth – don't acknowledge the verse breaks for now
 - Try to look up from the text now and then, but don't "make" yourself memorize it
- ❑ Review Jeremiah 15:16 and Proverbs 15:29
- ❑ Encourage someone with a verse

Review

"The LORD is _ _ _ from the _ _ _ _ _ ,
but he _ _ _ _ _ the _ _ _ _ _
of the _ _ _ _ _ ."

Proverbs 15:29
ESV

Summary

- ❑ I have the privilege of speaking with my heavenly Father in prayer
- ❑ God wants to hear our prayers and helps us to pray
- ❑ We acknowledge the Lord and our dependence on Him as we pray
- ❑ Writing out and organizing prayers can be encouraging and helpful

Resources on Prayer

- W. Bingham Hunter, ***The God Who Hears***
InterVarsity Press © 1986 Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship
- John MacArthur, ***Lord, Teach Me to Pray***
© 2003 J Countryman, Nashville, TN
- J. C. Ryle, ***A Call To Prayer: An Urgent Plea to Enter into the Secret Place*** © 1996, Audubon Press, Laurel MS 39441
- John MacArthur, ***Alone with God***, © 2006 Victor / Cook Communications Ministries, Colorado Springs, CO

Bonus Features

- ▣ **Wednesday Morning Bible Study –
Panera Bread – 6:30 AM**

- ▣ **What would be most helpful?**
 - One Hour Bible Jump Start
 - The Gospel in Four Words
 - Confidence in the Scriptures