



# NEW CROSSING CHURCH

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**Prayer Series: Upward. Inward. Outward.**

**Study 2: Why Pray? The Necessity of Prayer**

Note: You can listen to or watch the sermon of the same title, Jerry Disch, Jan 3, 2022

## **I. Prayer Is Necessary In Accomplishing God's Will On The Earth**

1. What motivates you to pray most of the time? What would you like to motivate you to pray?
2. Read Psalm 27:4. How does the motivation of seeking God's face affect your prayers? To inquire in his temple means to hear what's on his heart. Is there an area of your life where you want to hear what's on God's heart?
3. In the Creation God gave man authority over the earth, but Adam gave it away to Satan (Luke 4:6-7). Jesus reclaimed that authority through his death and resurrection. So what is the goal of prayer? Read Matthew 6:9-10 and James 5:16-18
4. Read Psalm 115:16. How does prayer help us take the responsibility God has given us on earth?
5. If God is sovereign (ie. meaning he has the authority and power to do whatever he wants when he wants), how do our prayers make a difference? Read Ezekiel 22:30-31 and Matthew 9:37-38 Why would a sovereign God want or need us to pray?
6. In what area has God called you to partner with Him in prayer? Have you been faithful to partner with Him? Why or why not? What can make it difficult for you to persevere in prayer?

## **II. Prayer Is The Ministry Of The Church**

7. Read Isaiah 56:7 and Luke 19:46. What does it mean for God's house to be a house of prayer and why is this important?

E.M. Bounds - "God shapes the world by prayer. The more praying there is in the world the better the world will be, the mightier the forces against evil..."

## **III. Prayer Is On The Job Training For Ruling With The Lord In The Age To Come**

8. Read Revelation 5:10, 3:21; Ephesians 1:20-21; Ephesians 2:6. How does prayer equip us for eternity?
9. Read 1 John 5:14-15. Is there an area or situation where you have seen no answer to your prayers but God wants you to persevere and continue to pray? According to John, what builds confidence to petition God in our prayers?

As a group, sit quietly and ask the Lord what is on His heart. What do you sense? Pray it back to him.