
B. DEVELOPING CONVICTIONS

What is the importance of prayer?
In your experience, when is the best time to pray?

B.14: Being a Disciple of Jesus - Developing prayer disciplines and habits [I Thessalonians 5:16-18]

A STORY

"I can't seem to get my prayer life going." A woman in our group told the group that she had set aside time and then she said, "I try to pray but it feels like my prayers are just hitting the ceiling." She sadly said, "I have not experienced a lot of results from prayer. I feel frustrated because I hear about other people praying and getting results. She asked, "what do I do?" It was clarifying that when it comes to prayer, it must be a relationship in which God speaks to us through His Word and then the response is in words of thankfulness, love and worship. It was important for her to grasp that prayer is not a list of requests but a heart connection in which God speaks and in response to his Word and promises we find our confidence he hears our prayers. It was important that she develop some actions in her calendar which would help that process. That requires some disciplines.

DIGGING INTO THE BIBLE

Let's look at the verse I **Thessalonians 5:16-18**

"Be joyful always. Pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus."

DISCUSSION AND DISCOVERY

1. What did you discover are the key components I these prayer instructions?

2. How can you be joyful always?

3. How do you think you pray continually?

4. What helps you give thanks in all circumstances?

5. Which one of these three instructions do you have the most trouble with?

APPLICATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

6. What would help you make this area more real in your life?

7. What steps can you take to start working on this?"

8. When would you see yourself working on the other areas?

9. How will you make progress in this area of your life so that it is a conviction?

10. When will you get started and how will you have accountability?

DIGGING IN DEEPER

1. What is the most important part of this lesson to you? Explain.

2. How do you see applying aspects of this lesson to your life?

3. When do you feel would be the best time to make that application?

4. What do you hear the Lord speaking to you about this right now?

SIMILAR VERSES IN THE BIBLE
