

PRAYER SUMMIT MANUAL 2005

The Lord has been speaking to me about a new dimension of prayer that will usher in a dramatic change to the Body of Christ. This move of intercession and prayer will birth a New Wineskin Church. The Old Wineskin Church was not intimate with God nor could it produce the abundance of fruit that God desires. The key to producing fruit is to be led by God. John 15:5 Most people in the church are not experiencing real intimacy with God and as a result the church has become performance based, meaning they are trying to please man and God through works. God wants us to develop a relationship with Him. This is why He created us. It just makes sense that if there is going to be a dramatic change in the church that prayer and intercession will intensify. We must allow the Lord to change our understanding about the purpose of prayer.

To fully understand God's purpose for prayer we must first establish why did God create man? In Genesis 1, God declares His plan, to make man in His image, but why did He plan to do that? The Bible says God walked with Adam in the Garden, demonstrating God's desire to be in relationship with man. This theme of relationship is again mentioned when God makes man a helper. God's reason for making a helper was that it was not good for man to be alone. I also believe as we learn to be intimate on earth with each other it helps us be intimate with God. All this leads us to infer that God's ultimate purpose is to make man in His image for the purpose of relationship. Accordingly, the purpose of prayer must relate to God's ultimate purpose.

The purpose and theme of prayer has three necessary and sequential aspects: to be formed into God's image, experience intimacy with God and bring God's will into the earth. When we place a priority on being transformed into God's nature and then yield to doing His will we are in God's perfect will and we have set our love upon God. We can claim the promise in Psalm 91:14-15, "because he has set his love upon me therefore I will deliver him and answer his prayer." This is the place of intercession where the Spirit of God brings breakthrough.

We see this theme of God's purpose beginning in the first verses of the Lord's prayer in Matthew 6:6. Jesus taught them what is known as an index model of prayer. Jesus gave His disciples a list of subjects or categories they were to pray.

1. **Our Father who art in heaven** = Calling God Father implies a covenant family relationship that God desires to establish.
2. **Hallowed be thy name** = the name or nature of God is unique and to be desired.
3. **Thy kingdom come** = a kingdom is to be established to accomplish God's purpose of bringing His nature to His people.
4. **Thy will be done on earth** = We should see prayer as aligning ourselves with God's will.

All of this shows us the ultimate goal of prayer is to establish a kingdom so all mankind can be transformed into the very nature of God. Thus bringing the will of God into the earth. Remember the statement that Jesus made to Peter when He asked, "who do you say I am?" Peter responded, "Christ the Messiah," And Jesus declared, "upon this rock I will build my church." He meant that the revelation of God will be the purpose of the Church. The life of Jesus, the Holy Spirit, Prayer and the Word of God are the primary vehicles for this revelation.

Once we establish the true purpose of prayer we can remove one of the key obstacles to hearing God. **God's primary reason for speaking to man is not to give guidance but to form his nature or character in us.**

If God were to give direction to us in every instance, we would be like robots and our growth would be stunted. This is why we must see that God will speak and direct us in such a way as to cause His nature to be formed in us. Sometimes this means making us wait to see how we will react or if we will persevere.

Once His nature begins to form it will provide us with more direction. This growing nature of God can be called an increased sense of oneness. We will act as our Lord acts because we have His nature. God wants to form a Christ-like character in each of us to give direction. If we seek direction yet refuse to be changed by God we limit the depth of communication. **To be in the place of constant change by God is to be in his perfect will and the place of prayer and intercession. Romans 8:28**

We see from the word of God that prayer has three practical aspects:

1. To know God - John 17:3-4, Psalm 46:10
2. To know God's will and ways - Exodus 33:12-18
3. To give God dominion on the earth through man's yielded will
Genesis 1:26-27, Romans 6:13-14

The keys to hearing from God is to understand the importance of God's word, His will and nature. The still small voice that God uses to speak to us is a smaller aspect of God's communicative efforts.

We will focus on these three areas by looking at the practical side of these aspects.

1. **SECTION ONE**- The Purpose of Prayer?
2. **SECTION TWO**- How to Hear God & what are the obstacle of prayer.
3. **SECTION THREE**- What is God saying to us today about how and what to pray.

BASIC PRAYER LIFE BIBLE STUDY
INTRODUCTION

God has a wonderful purpose for your life. Success in life for every person, including you, will be determined by whether or not they fulfilled God's purpose. In order to find and fulfill God's purpose we must learn how to have an effective prayer life, and live for Jesus every day. That is what this study is designed to help you do.

The scripture study will teach you the truth of God's word. The basic questions will help you live the truth. The scripture memory will help you hide the truth in your heart.

In this study you will learn what prayer is, the types of prayers, how to be a prayer warrior, and practical points for maintaining an effective prayer life.

Begin each lesson with prayer. Write the answers in your own words. Ask God to help you live what you learn.

May God bless you as you study His word.

Stephen Gray

SECTION ONE - Purpose of Prayer

Basic Prayer Life

Lesson I

The Purpose of Prayer

To seek the face of the Lord and know Him better

Psalm 27:8

Isaiah 55: 6-7

To get close to God

Psalm 73:28

James 4:8

To be with God

1 Kings 9:3

To Hear God

Proverbs 8:34

John 10:27

To speak to God

1 Peter 3:12

John 9:31-32

To have joy

John 16:24

Luke 10:17

To have peace

Philippians 4:6-7

Jeremiah 33:6-7

To withstand evil

Ephesians 6:13

James 4:7

To be healed emotionally

James 5:15 - 17

Mar 16:17-18

To be free of suffering

2 Chronicles 33:12-13-

James 5:13

To be rescued from distress

Psalms 34:4

Psalm 50:15

To resist temptation

Matthew 26:41

Luke 21:36

To unburden your heart

Psalm. 142:1-2

Psalm 86:7

To give God dominion in your life

Gen. 1:26

Romans 6:13-14

To see God's will done in the earth as it is in heaven

Matthew 6:6

John 17:4

To have image of Christ formed in you

Hebrews 11:6

Galatians 4:19

BASIC PRAYER LIFE

LESSON II

WHAT IS PRAYER

(This section adapted from Prayer Life by Henry Pulsifer)

SCRIPTURE STUDY: Answer each question using the scripture given.

1. How do you enter God's presence in order to talk with Him?

Psalm 100:4, 1 Timothy 2:8 _____

2. What does praising God help us to do? Ephesians 5:18-20

3. What two ways do we pray? 1 Corinthians 14:15 _____

4. How do we pray in the Spirit? Romans 8:26, 1 Corinthians 14:14

5. What does praying in the Spirit do? Jude 20 _____

6. How do we pray with our understanding? Matthew 6:5-13

7. What are some of the things God tells us to pray for?

Matthew 5:44, 9:38; Psalms 32:5-6, 122:6; James 1:5, 5:16;

1 Timothy 2:1-3 _____

8. What are the main types of prayer? 1 Timothy 2:1 _____

9. When should we pray? 1 Thessalonians 5:17, Luke 18:1 _____

10. What do we need to add to our prayers in order to defeat the

enemy sometimes? Matthew 17:21 _____

11. If we are living for Jesus, what does He promise concerning our

prayers? 1 John 3:22, 5:14 _____

12. What can keep God from hearing our prayers? James 4:3; Psalm 66:18; 1 Peter 3:7; Mark 11:25-26 _____

13. What must we do to get these hindrances removed? 1 John 1:9

BASIC QUESTIONS: To help you live what you studied.

1. Do you approach God with a thankful heart when you pray?

yes___ no___ If you have a problem in this area, sing praises to God as you begin your prayers.

2. Have you allowed God to fill you with His Spirit? yes___ no___ If not, pray right now, yielding your will to God and ask Him to fill you with His Spirit. Begin praising Him from your heart for doing it.

3. Do you build your faith by praying in the Spirit? yes___ no___ If not, begin to do so right now.

4. Do you pray for the things God asks you to pray for using the pattern He gave? yes___ no___ If not, begin today.

5. Is there anything in your life that would hinder God from hearing your prayers? yes___ no___ If yes, repent of it right now.

6. Are you always ready to pray about the situations you meet in life? yes___ no___ If not, begin right now by asking God to give you a spirit of prayer.

7. Do you ever fast when you are having a hard time gaining victory over a problem? yes___ no___ If no, begin to do so today.

MEMORIZE: Hide God's word in your heart by memorizing 1 Timothy 2:8

BASIC PRAYER LIFE
LESSON III
TYPES OF PRAYER

SCRIPTURE STUDY: Answer each question using the scripture given.

1. What are the four types of prayer mentioned in 1 Timothy 2:1?

2. How are these types of prayer part of our spiritual armor?
Ephesians 6:18 _____

3. According to Psalm 142:1-2, what is supplication? _____

4. According to Psalm 5:1-2 what is prayer? _____

5. According to Psalm 26:7 what is thanksgiving? _____

6. According to Ezekial 22:30 what is intercession? _____

7. According to Matthew 26:41 and Philippians 4:6 what types of
prayer should we use in dealing with the situations we face in
our daily lives? _____

8. What does 1 Timothy 2:1-4 tell us about how these types of
prayer affect the spread of the Gospel, and the conditions in
the world around us? _____

9. In addition to individual prayer what did Jesus say we could do
that controls the situations in the world around us?
Matthew 18:18-20 _____

BASIC QUESTIONS: To help you live what you studied.

1. Are you using all the types of prayer in your personal prayer life? yes___ no___ If not, begin to do so today.

2. Do you seek to watchfully meet your daily situations with prayer the way the scriptures tell us to do? yes___ no___
If no, ask God to help you begin to do it today.

3. Are you praying in agreement with others so that you are able to effectively bind and loose the things you pray for?
yes___ no___ If no, begin to seek to do so today.

MEMORIZE: Hide God's word in your heart by memorizing 1 Timothy 2:1

BASIC PRAYER LIFE
LESSON IV
SPIRITUAL WARFARE

SCRIPTURE STUDY: Answer each question using the scripture given.

1. What do the example of Moses in Exodus 32:30-35 & Deuteronomy 9:16-21 and the example of Paul in Acts 20:22-24, 21:10-13 & Romans 9:3, 10:1 show us about interceding for those bound by sin and self righteousness? _____

2. What does the example of Esther and the Jews in Esther chapters 4, 5 & 9 tell us about how to intercede for the victory for God's people? _____

3. What does the example of the early church in Acts chapters 1, 2, 4 & 12 show us about the power of group prayer and intercession?

4. What does the example of Daniel in Daniel chapters 9 & 10 show us about intercession and the fulfillment of prophecy? _____

5. What does the example of Jesus in Mark 1:35 and Hebrews 5: 7-8 show us about the importance of prayer in the lives of those involved in ministry? _____

BASIC QUESTIONS: To help you live what you studied.

1. Do you intercede regularly for the lost and those bound by religious tradition? yes___ no___ If no, begin today by using what you studied in the Word as a guide.

2. Do you intercede regularly for the members of your church, your pastor, and other Christians so that they will be able to walk in victory? yes___ no___ If no, begin today using what you studied in the Word as a guide.

3. Do you pray with other Christians so that the power of your agreement will help the spread of the Gospel and establish God's Kingdom on the earth? yes___ no___ If no, seek to do so today.

4. Do you pursue the things you feel God has told you will happen in prayer instead of just assuming God will do them without your help? yes___ no___ If no, begin today using what you studied in the Word as a guide.

5. Do you pursue the ministry God has given you through the power, anointing and wisdom God gives you during your prayer time rather than your own strength and ability? yes___ no___ If no, begin today using what you studied in the Word as a guide.

MEMORIZE: Hide God's word in your heart by memorizing Acts 4:31

BASIC PRAYER LIFE
LESSON V
PRACTICAL PRAYER POINTS

SCRIPTURE STUDY: Answer each question using the scripture given.

1. Set aside specific times during the day for prayer and intercession and give them priority in your life.
2. Establish a place for prayer where you will not be disturbed; a closet, a hidden place in the yard, cemetery, vacant lot, etc.
3. Keep a prayer journal listing the things God told you to pray for by categories (lost people, church members, countries of the world, etc.). Also, keep track of when requests are made, answered, and any spiritually significant events that occur daily.
4. Study and seek the Lord about the people, places and events He tells you to pray for so you can know the specific request that you need to intercede for. Be specific in your prayers.
5. Set aside specific times when you get together with other Christians for prayer and intercession. At least weekly if possible. Developing neighborhood, school and on-the-job prayer groups is one way to do this in addition to your local church groups.
6. Stay faithful in prayer until the answer comes. George Mueller prayed 50 years for a man that was saved at his funeral.

BASIC QUESTIONS: To help you live what you studied.

1. Do you set aside specific times daily for prayer? yes___ no___
If no, do it today.
2. Have you set aside a specific place to pray where you will not be disturbed? yes___ no___ If no, do it today.
3. Do you keep a prayer journal? yes___ no___ If no, do it today.
4. Have you studied and made a specific list of the prayer needs concerning the things God has burdened you to pray for? yes___ no___ If no, do it today.
5. Have you set side a time to pray regularly with other Christians? yes___ no___ If no, do it today.
6. Have you set your heart to stay faithful in your prayer life no matter what happens? yes___ no___ If no, do it today.

MEMORIZE: Hide God's word in your heart by memorizing Romans 12:12

**LESSON VI - KEEPING A PRAYER JOURNAL
GUIDELINES FOR MAINTAINING
A PRAYER DIARY**

1. **DAILY** enter the main thing you did that day plus any special things that happened especially those of Spiritual significance such as witnessing opportunities and answers to prayer. Write a brief description of people you met, decisions you made, ideas, thoughts, good & bad things that happened, and evaluate what you did. Write down how you could improve, and avoid mistakes.

EXAMPLE: JANUARY 3, 1992

Went to work. Shared Jesus with John whom I've been praying for. Prayed through my prayer list, & received understanding about end times from study of Matthew 24 (see study notes). Prayed for special financial need. (see prayer Journal)

2. **MAKE A PRAYER LIST** divided by categories of lost people, church members, political and spiritual leaders, missionaries, and special needs.

EXAMPLE :

LOST CHURCH MEMBERS LEADERS MISSIONARY SPECIAL NEEDS
J. Doe Shirley Gayle Pastor (name of Missions Trip
Bill S. President Missionary)

3. **KEEP A PRAYER JOURNAL** of special request; enter the request, the date it was made, when it was answered, and how it was answered.

4. **KEEP A STUDY JOURNAL** of special things God shows you each day as you study His word.

EXAMPLE:

MATTHEW 24

JAN. 3, 92

verse 14 showed me how important it is to share Jesus.

verse 20 & 21 showed me how important prayer is.

verse 44 - 51 showed me how important it is for me to be doing what God has told me to do.

SECTION TWO

HOW TO HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD

Introduction:

1. How often each day we are called upon to hear something.
2. Commercials on television, radio are presented that we might hear them and respond favorably.
3. In order to do this successfully, we have to listen and take note of what is being said.
4. The Lord calls upon each one to "HEAR."
5. In the Old Testament the phrase "Hear the Word of the Lord," appears 36 times. The phrase appears 15 times in the book of Jeremiah.
6. The people of God had become exceedingly sinful and Jeremiah, the weeping prophet, calls upon them over and over to "Hear the Word of the Lord."
7. They had forgotten Jehovah; adultery was plentiful in their midst; they were continually backsliding; yet, they refused to repent of their sins.
8. The basic reason for the condemnation of this people was they "refused to hear God's Word," Jer. 13:10. Thus, God committed them to Babylon.
9. In like manner, those who refuse to "hear the word of the Lord," shall be cut off. Acts 3:22-23; 2 Thess. 1:7-9.
10. In the days of Jeremiah there were many voices clamoring to be heard: false prophets, priests, idolatry, wicked kings.
11. So today: voices clamoring to be heard: liberalism; false teachers; denominationalism, materialism, etc.
12. Thus, God calls upon each one: "HEAR MY VOICE, MY WORD."

BODY:

- I. THE TERM "HEAR" HAS MANY DIFFERENT USES:
 1. Sometimes it means simply hear a sound.
 - (1) Acts 9:7--heard the voice (sound) but did not understand. Acts 22:9. Also, Jn. 12:28-29.
 - (2) We hear the truck on the highway, but no message.
 2. More often it means to understand the message. Mt. 10:27; Mt. 11:2; Lk 19:47-48.
 3. To yield to, to hear and respond, obey. Acts 3:22-23.
- II. WHAT IS IT THAT WE ARE TO HEAR?
 1. "The Word of the Lord."
 2. Jeremiah had a great task, just as we do today. He encouraged the people to hear God's Word, rather than false prophets, and man's words. Jer 23:16-17.
 3. Jesus warned of this same problem. Matt. 7:15.
 4. The apostles confronted the same problem. Col. 2:8. They warned of false teachers. 1 John 4:1; 2 Pet 2:1-
 5. So, we must hear, obey and teach the "Word of the Lord."
 6. Acts 17:11 - We need the spirit of the Bereans.

III. SOME HINDRANCES TO HEARING THE WORD OF THE LORD:

A. There are five obstacles to hearing God. (Adapted from "Hearing God" by Dallas Willard)

1. To understand that God's intention is to guide us and communicate with us through many different ways other than His voice. To give emphasis to only a few of these ways is to limit our ability to be guided by God.
Proverbs 3:5-6
2. We have the wrong motives for seeking to hear from God.
James 4:3
3. Our understanding of God's communication with us is blocked when we misconceive the very nature of our heavenly Father and his intent for us as his children.
4. God must guide us in a way that develops character and spontaneity in us.
5. Failing to obey the direction of God dulls our hearing.

B. (Though the Word is widely preached, taught, many do not hear And obey it. What are some of the reasons for this.)

1. IGNORANCE:

- (1) Rom. 10:1-3 -- Jews failed to hear out of ignorance.
Acts 3:14-17.
 - (a) It must be understood that ignorance is not God's fault.
 - (b) God gave them the oracles of God, the law and the prophets. Rom. 3:1-2.
 - (c) God gave them the law to bring them to Christ.
Gal. 3:24.
 - (d) The prophets bore witness of Christ. Acts 10:43;
26:22-
 - (e) Yet, they rejected the Christ.
- (2) Man's ignorance today is not God's fault.
 - (a) The word has been preached to all of the world.
Col. 1:23;
 - (b) All things necessary for man's salvation have been provided. 2 Tim. 3:16-17; Jude 3.
 - (c) It surely is not God's fault if man is lost. Look what He provided. His Son upon the cross.

2. TO PROVE A PRECONCEIVED THEORY:

- (1) Some have a theory to prove and they go to the Bible for evidence. This will make one dishonest if one is not careful.
- (2) 2 Thess 2:10-12 -- A lie believe will cause one to be lost.
- (3) Mt. 5:6 -- Must hunger and thirst after righteousness.

3. BECAUSE OF PREJUDICE:

- (1) Religious prejudice closes many ears to Word of God.
- (2) Prejudice, "preconceived judgment or opinion; the making up of one's mind without regarding the facts."
- (3) "My mind is made up! Don't confuse me with the facts."
- (4) Many Biblical examples of prejudice:
 - (a) Naaman -- 2 Kings 5:9-11.
 - (b) Jews who stoned Stephen -- Acts 7:54-59.
 - (c) Jews who heard Paul -- Acts 22:17-23.

4. THINKING THERE IS SUFFICIENT TIME TO CHANGE:

- (1) God's Word warns about waiting until tomorrow --
Proverbs 27:1; James 4:13-14.
- (2) Let us suppose that you had information that tomorrow
would be your last day on the earth. Would you hear
God's Word today? Would it make any difference???
- (3) How do you know that might not be the case.

IV. THOSE WHO REMOVE THESE HINDRANCES WILL HEAR THE WORD OF GOD:

1. They hear:

- (1) That responsible persons who have sinned are under the
condemnation of Heaven, unless they hear and obey.
- (2) That Christ invites men and women to come to Him,
Mt. 11:28-30.
- (3) That God has a plan to Save: Mk. 16:16; Acts 2:38.
- (4) That God demands an obedient life to be lived.
Titus 2:11-12.
- (5) That one must obey from the heart. Rom. 6:17-18.
- (6) That the promise of salvation is for the obedient and
the faithful. Rev. 2:10.

Conclusion:

1. The question that each one must ask is: AM I HEARING THE
WORD OF THE LORD?
2. Have I sought out what I need to do to be saved?
3. Have I removed all hindrances that would cause me to reject
any part of God's Word?
4. Jehovah is pleading with us to "Hear Ye Him."
5. Am I listening? Are you listening????

In the introduction pages of this prayer manual we discussed the key aspects of prayer. **The keys to hearing from God are to understand the importance of God's word, His will and nature. The still small voice that God uses to speak to us is a smaller aspect of God's communicative efforts. It is important that we understand that my faith needs not to be in my ability to hear His voice, but in His ability to bring me to where He wants me to be.**

Honor God's word

Without a disciplined effort to study and read God's word and then to apply God's word to our lives, we will never hear God speak at the level that is available.

Know God's will

It is more important to know God and His ways than to hear the still small voice. Rarely do we hear the Saints of the Bible pray to "hear" God but to know God and His ways. God uses five ways to make his will known to us. (1) Sovereignty and providence 2)Wise Counsel (3) Word of God (Logos) (4) Inner Witness- peace and the unction of the Holy Spirit. (5) Still small voice (Rhema). To know God and His will is our first priority.

Yield to God's nature forming within you

The process of being formed into the image of Christ is God's ultimate purpose for His people. Romans 8:29 When we cooperate with that process fully we are in God's perfect will. This is the place of intercession because we know sin prevents us from hearing and being close to God. When we see the process of sanctification as an important priority in God's plan for our life then we step into a place of intimacy and protection with God. Psalm 91 & Romans 8:28

God is calling His church out of Babylon. Babylon in scripture is a symbol of the world and religious systems. God is calling us away from the influence of the world and religious systems. He is calling us into a new place of prayer and intercession. If Romans 8:28 is true then when man enters into a place of intimate relationship and cooperation with God the Spirit of God can do greater intercession and travail so that all things work together for good. Notice the context of the passage does not say our "good" but means God's perfect will. Our highest form of prayer is to be submitted, cooperating and yielded to God's will. We are called in Genesis chapter one to take dominion that means to bring the earth under the rule and reign of Christ. We read the Lord's promise to us in Psalm 91:14, "when we set our love upon Him, He will answer us." This is the supernatural place of intercession. This is the new dimension of prayer that God has been preparing for His people.

SECTION THREE

PRAYER AGENGA FOR 2005

1. SEEK, SUBMIT, SANCTIFY

God wants us to seek Him and be changed - He is building the tabernacle of David. - Acts 15:16 Be in a place of intimacy and intercession. Jeremiah 31:34 will be fulfilled.

2. MAKE DISCIPLES

Be discipled & disciple, discipleship is God's purpose
Romans 8:28-29

3. RESTORATION

Old wineskin and new wineskin - Grace, mercy and forgiveness
Ezekiel 34:7-11

- a. Leaders - why there old wineskin - control, lack of humility
- b. Structure - one man control system - teenage rebellion-submitted under controlling leaders.
- c. Goal is intimacy
- d. It is not about who is right and who is wrong it is about who can demonstrate dominion.

4. PASSION FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

- a. Submit to the right King. Deut. 5:25
- b. We can't change anyone - you must embrace death to self

5. LAST DAYS DECEPTION

Understand how to recognize false teachers and prophets

6. ACCOUNTABILITY NOT CONTROL

Be in fellowship with an Apostle and a Prophet and stay close

7. What is the Lord saying to you!