

English Transcript
Worship-based Prayer
Lesson 8 - Appendix Review

Welcome back to our final lesson on Worship-based Prayer: Everything changes when we seek God's face.

This lesson begins on page 33 in your handout. This lesson will be a review of the prayer tools that are included in the Appendix to your handout.

I will walk you through these tools and explain how they can be used to reinforce the 4x4 pattern for prayer aligned with Matthew 6.

These tools encourage the use of Scripture in our prayers in support of Reverence, Response, Requests and Readiness.

There are nine tools in the Appendix.

Appendix I – 5 Psalms (page 33)

The Psalms are a wonderful starting point for prayer, especially as we begin with an upward focus on God through praise and thanksgiving. The Psalms are songs and prayers that remind us of God's character, His attributes, names, and mighty works.

You may download the 5 Psalms App onto your phone. There is a copy of a 5 Psalms card on page 33 that will guide you through reading and praying the Psalms each month. As you know, there are 150 Psalms. If you read five Psalms each day, you will read through the Psalms every month.

The format is quite simple. Start with the day of the month. Read the Psalm for the day of the month and then add 30 to that first number 4 more times. For example, if today is the 1st of the month, you would begin with Psalm 1. That would be followed by Psalm 31, 61, 91 and 121. On Day 2, you begin with Psalm 2, followed by Psalm 32, 62, 92, 122.

As you read the Psalms, you might also add the Proverb that corresponds to the number of that day. For example, read Proverbs 1 on the 1st of the month, Proverbs 2 on the 2nd day, and so forth.

You will remember that we read Psalm 103 to begin this course on prayer. Psalm 103 is filled with the attributes of God, His names, His works. Because the best place to begin prayer is with an open Bible and with a heart of reverence toward God, praying right out of a Psalm helps to guide our praying with this upward direction.

As we begin to pray, we are focused on praising God for who He is and thanking Him for all He has done. In Psalm 103, we were reminded that God is holy. God is the Giver of good gifts. God is forgiving. God is the Healer. God is Creator. God is compassionate, gracious, slow to anger and abounding in love. Almost every verse in that Psalm contained something that described the character of God.

After reading the five Psalms for the day, you may pick one of the Psalms to guide your praying for that day. The Psalm will ensure that your prayers of adoration are filled with Scripture. You will also find it quite easy to follow the entire 4x4 prayer pattern using that Psalm as we have modeled for you in this course.

Appendix II – Praying the Names of God (pages 34-35)

The next tool will also help with your worship of God through prayer as you bring God's names into your praying. These two pages summarize many of the names of God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit that are found in the Bible. For each Hebrew name of God, you will see the definition along with a few Scripture references. Many of the names of God come from life experiences and events in the Bible. God revealed Himself and His names as He engaged with the world He created.

For example, when God called Abraham to sacrifice his son Isaac in Genesis 22 to test Abraham's love and trust in God, we see God as Jehovah Jireh. This name means that God Provides. In response to Abraham's faith, God provided the ram/lamb for the sacrifice in place of Isaac. This illustration points forward to Jesus, as the Lamb of God who would become our substitute and make atonement for our sin.

Whenever we see a reference to a name of God, this can be incorporated into our prayers of adoration and thanksgiving. For example, in response to God as our Provider, you might pray:

"Thank You, for being Jehovah Jireh. You have provided for me in so many ways." (And then begin to thank God for the ways He has provided for the needs in your life.)

"I praise You Jesus for being the Bread of Life! Thank You for providing for my physical and spiritual needs every day. Even today you have nourished me with _____."

Appendix III – Praying the Attributes of God (pages 36-38)

In the same way, you may use the next tool to bring the attributes of God into your prayers. This list helps us know God in a deeper way by memorizing His attributes. These attributes describe God's character. Once we know God's character, we are better equipped to see Him throughout the pages of Scripture. This tool is also helpful during the reverence segment of your prayer time. The attributes of God are listed alphabetically, with a short definition, and a few references to where you would find this attribute in the Bible. A simple prompt to begin prayer with worship could be to say:

"I praise You God because you are _____ (and begin to list the attributes of God that you see in the Psalm or passage of the Bible you are praying from.)

Appendix IV – Who I Am in Christ (page 39)

“Who I am in Christ” is a wonderful tool for worship as well as for praying these truths about a believer’s identity in Christ into their life. This tool includes more than thirty truths related to what the Bibles says about who we are in Christ. We can use these truths to praise God for who He is and thank Him for all He has done.

For example, John 1:12 reminds us that “I am a child of God by faith in Jesus Christ”.

We could use this truth the thank God that because of Jesus’ death and resurrection and your faith in Him, God is now your heavenly Father. *“As a child of the God, I praise you because _____.”*

As we intercede for one another, you may incorporate these biblical truths to encourage others and pray for their spiritual transformation. These truths will offer assurance in the face of doubt and discouragement. The beauty of this, as with each of these tools, is that we are not using our own words but rather we are praying God’s Word back to Him and into the lives of others.

Appendix V – Praying God’s Purposes for the Church (Pages 40-41)

Praying God's purposes for His church is a helpful tool as we bring requests before God. Again, the goal of worship-based praying is to focus on Spirit-led, Scripture-fed worship-based prayer.

The ideal way to pray is with an open Bible. These two pages are filled with practical prayers, based on Scripture to pray for the strength and spiritual transformation of the church and individual believers. These truths may guide us into times of confession and surrender as we respond to God.

For example, the first prayer is that we pursue lost people as Jesus did.

We might confess, “Lord, forgive me for my self-centeredness and my lack of concern for my neighbors who do not know Jesus.” “Lord, fill me with the Holy Spirit and break my heart for _____ (fill in the names of family and friends) and help me to develop relationships with him/her. Today, help me to love them by _____” (and share examples of how you can love and pursue these people).

As we pray God’s purposes, we can be sure we are praying God’s will. When we pray for things that God has promised, we can be confident that God will bring His promises to pass in His perfect timing.

Appendix VI – Prayers of the New Testament (pages 42-44)

As people learn to pray, a wonderful place to start is with the written prayers in the Bible. The Old and New Testaments are filled with prayers that were written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. If you have no idea what to pray about, simply begin praying the prayers

from the Bible. In this tool, I have included many of the prayers recorded by the apostle Paul. These prayers can be used to pray through the entire 4x4 prayer pattern or used in support of a specific segment such as reverence, response, requests, or readiness.

For example, we could pray this short prayer from Philippians 1:9-11.

“And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God.”

Reverence: *“I praise You God that You are not just loving but You are love! You are also righteous in all your ways. Thank You Jesus, that through faith in You, I have received Your righteousness that has come from heaven.”*

Response: *“I confess that often my love for You, Lord, and for others can fall short. I surrender my desires for what I think may be best regarding _____ and trust that You will reveal to me not just what is good, or better, but the best way to live for You today as I work with _____.”*

Request: *“Help me to love _____ (person) with the love of Jesus today. May our family come to know how high and wide and deep and long, is Your love for us, Jesus. May each person in our family walk worthy of the calling we have received in Christ. Help us to choose purity today as we _____ (describe key events planned for the day).”*

Readiness: *“Protect me from those things that can cause my love for You to grow cold. Fill me today with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ. Strengthen me by the grace that is in Christ Jesus today as I desire to bring glory to You Father as I complete the work that you have prepared for me today.” (And then list some of the activities of the day.)*

From one prayer, we touched on each aspect of the 4x4 pattern for prayer. Because the Word of God is living and active, we could use this prayer from Philippians 1 one day and come back to it later in the month and the Holy Spirit would guide you to apply this prayer in diverse ways. This is the power of Scripture-fed, Spirit-led, worship-based prayer.

Appendix VII – Praying for the Lost (page 45)

This tool includes helpful, biblical prayers for those who do not know Jesus yet. Once again, each prayer prompt is based on Scripture.

For example, I may pray: *“Lord, draw _____ to Yourself.”* This comes from John 6:44, “No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him.”

“I pray that _____ will hear and believe the word of God.” This is based on Romans 10:17, “Faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ.”

"I ask that you prevent Satan from blinding _____ to the truth." This comes from 2 Corinthians 4:4, "The God of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God." We are praying for the Holy Spirit to do what only He can do - strip away the scales that are blinding the minds of a person's heart, so that they would be able to see Jesus for who He is.

Spending time in prayer consistently for those that God has placed in our life is where the spiritual battle begins and continues.

Appendix VIII – Prayers for Revival (page 46)

We need ongoing revival in our personal lives, and the church needs revival as we collectively live lives of repenting and believing. Revival is not something that we create. Revival is a work of God in response to the humble and repentant prayers of His people. There has never been a revival that did not start with believers joining together in united prayer for God to be glorified in the world through His church.

Appendix IX – Praying God's Promises (Pages 47-51)

This tool comes from *Prayer Changes Everything* by Benny Mostart.

"No matter how many promises God has made, they are "yes" in Christ and so through Him, the 'Amen' is spoken by us to the glory of God (2 Corinthians 1:20)."

Everett Storm recorded 7,959 promises of God in the Scriptures. If we were to use one promise each day, it would take 22 years to use each of the promises just once. The promises of God can be applied throughout the 4x4 pattern for prayer, but they are extremely helpful in the "Readiness" segment as we prepare to face temptations, trials, and the spiritual battles.

It is wonderful to be able to claim the promises of God. Not one of His great and precious promises has ever failed. Joshua experienced that in the Old Testament. The New Testament is the fulfillment of all that was promised and prophesied in the Old Testament related to the Lord Jesus. We may not know the timing of when and how God's promises will be fulfilled, but by His grace and for His glory, His promises will become reality in time and surely in eternity.

It is good to memorize God's promises. We can use them to encourage others, to pray God's word into their lives, and to help them fix their eyes not on earthly things but on eternal things. These five pages include just a sampling of God's promises. Each category of promise includes the specific promises along with the references.

Summary

I hope that you find these tools helpful as you bring them into your praying. These can support praying at each step in the 4x4 pattern prayer based on Matthew 6.

Just like Jesus' disciples, we are asking, *"Lord, teach us to pray."*

May we not pray with wrong motives and wrong methods. May we pray using the model for prayer the Jesus' provided:

"Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen."

The only enduring motive for prayer is that God is worthy to be sought. He is worthy and we are needy.

Prayer is many things, but surely it is about developing a relationship with God.

Prayer is intended to be balanced. It includes praise and thanksgiving, surrender, confession, silence, and submission to God. It includes all kinds of requests for yourself and others. It includes prayers for readiness as we enter the mission field of life, doing the work that God has called us to do. Prayer is remembering God's promises, knowing that we are victorious in Christ.

Prayer is focused on seeking God's face. In Psalm 27:4 David said, "One thing I ask of the Lord, this is what I seek: to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and seek him in his temple." And then in verse 8, God says, "David, seek my face". David says, "Your face, Lord, I will seek."

This is where we develop the concept of "seeking God's face and not just His hand." We can bring all our requests before God as our Heavenly Father, but we should never just focus on His hand. When we seek God's face, we get all of Him and all the blessing that comes with this. We when just seek His hand (what we can get from God) we may miss a deepening, intimate, abiding relationship with Christ.

My desire when we started this course was to provide you with a sound, biblical theology for prayer. I also wanted to introduce you to a biblical, life-transforming way of praying that glorifies God. Finally, I wanted you to be equipped to help teach and lead others to pray in the manner that Jesus taught us to pray.

For pastors, may you develop a vision for dying on your knees in prayer. There may be no greater calling and joy than to lead others before God's throne of grace. May your churches become houses of prayer for all nations. May you not just lead a church that prays but that your churches would be praying churches. Prayer would become the DNA of your church. Prayer would begin to penetrate every facet of your church and the lives of your people.

The manifest presence of God would be evident to all who enter through your doors or engage with the members of your church.

May God continue to do immeasurably, abundantly, more than you could ever ask or imagine and may He be glorified in and through the church, now and forevermore. Amen (Ephesians 3:20-21).

Thank you for your commitment to work through this course. I Look forward to connecting with you on one of our future GTN audio courses.

God bless you.