

Answers: Lesson NINE: CLI Leadership Bible Study

How to positively influence the attitudes and actions of others for Jesus Christ

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS Lesson 9: PRAYER OF A LEADER

Lesson 9: Prayer of a Leader (Day One) *Diamond in the Rough*

1. What thoughts come to your mind when you think of yourself as a valuable, brilliant, and living diamond?

Personal Answer

Read Mark 1:35 and Luke 5:16 and answer questions 2-4:

Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed. Mark 1:35

But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed. Luke 5:16

2. When did Jesus, our Leadership Model, pray?

Very early in the morning and often

3. What kind of places did Jesus go to when He prayed?

Lonely places or solitary places

4. Why is this a good pattern for you?

Personal Answer - but both time and place indicate that we need to find quiet places to hear from God. We can focus on God uninterrupted and seek Him first at the beginning of the day.

Read John 11:41-42 and answer questions 5-8:

So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. ⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me." John 11:41-42

5. Did Jesus pray out loud in the presence of other people (v. 42)? **Yes** No (Circle one)

6. Considering that Jesus prayed alone and with others, what does this tell you about your own prayer life?

In following Jesus, our model, we should also pray alone and with others. Both are important.

7. Jesus said, “Father, I _____ **thank** _____ you that you have _____ **heard** _____ me” (v. 41).

8. Jesus prayed, “I knew that you _____ **always** _____ hear me” (v. 42).

9. Why do you think God wants *you* to be confident in praying to Him?

Personal Answer

Personal Application: Meditate and memorize 1 John 5:14-15 & Romans 12:1-2 and answer the question that follows.

10. Write memory verses:

This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. ¹⁵ And if we know that he hears us-- whatever we ask-- we know that we have what we asked of him. 1 John 5:14-15

11. Write memory verses:

Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God-- this is your spiritual act of worship. ² Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is-- his good, pleasing and perfect will.
Romans 12:1-2

12. How can *you* be confident of praying and knowing God's will?

Personal Answer – suggestions would be to read and study God's Word on His promises to answer prayer and know His will. For example 1 John 5:14-15 and Romans 12:1-2 that your “learner” memorized above. Pray for faith and of course do what the Bible says – obey God.

13. Take time in the next few days to seek God and ask Him about the calling on your life. What did He impress upon your heart or spirit?

Personal Answer

Lesson 9: Prayer of a Leader (Day Two) Bruting the Heart

"But I tell you who hear me: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you,²⁸ bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. Luke 6:27-28

14. Read Luke 6:27-28. In verse 28, Jesus commands us to bless those who curse us and to

_____ **pray** _____ for those who _____ **mistreat** _____ us.

But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,⁴⁵ that you may be sons of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.⁴⁶ If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? Matthew 5:44-45

15. Read Matthew 5:44-45. In verse 44 Jesus tells us to love our enemies and _____ **pray** _____

for those who persecute us, so that we may be _____ **sons** _____ of our Father in heaven.

16. Share a time when someone hurt or insulted you, and yet you still prayed for that person?

Personal Answer

17. Is there anyone in your life right now that you do not want to pray for? Yes No (Circle One)

Personal Answer

18. If you answered yes above, please share a few broad details of the situation. How may your CLI Bible Minister pray for you so that you will pray for this person and others who hurt you?

Read 2 Corinthians 10:5 and answer questions 19-21:

We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ. 2 Corinthians 10:5

19. Is it possible to take captive every thought and make it obedient to Christ? **Y** **N** (Circle One)

20. Why are obedient thoughts to Christ important to *your* prayer life?

Personal Answer – but suggestions: Our prayers will be acceptable to God - holy, pure and righteous. Also in order for us to know God, pray His will and hear from Him, we must make our thoughts and actions obedient to Christ. God speaks to us through His Son –

^{NIV} **Hebrews 1:1-3** In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways,² but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe.³ The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.

21. What are some practical ways that you can train and discipline yourself to take every thought captive so that your prayers are pure and acceptable to God?

Personal Answer – but here again are suggestions from this lesson:

Watching what goes into your mind is a good practical way to start disciplining your mind. Read Christian books and watch movies that honor Christ. If you are having a problem with a particular subject such as praying for your enemies or unforgiveness, search the Scriptures and immerse your mind with what the Bible says about those subjects. The concordance (word directory to find Scripture passages) and subject index in the back of study Bibles are helpful.

"For who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ. 1 Corinthians 2:16

22. Paul tells us in 1 Corinthians 2:16 that we have the _____ **mind** _____ of Christ.

Personal Application: Ask God to bring to your mind someone who has mistreated you. Ask the Holy Spirit to give you Christian love for him or her and to lead you in praying for this person daily for one week. At the end of the week, please answer the following question:

23. What did the Lord reveal to you during the week about this person or situation?

Personal Answer – CLI Bible Minister, Please comment on the answer appropriately giving encouragement and wisdom as the Holy Spirit leads.

Lesson 9: Prayer of a Leader (Day Three) Facing the Heart in Prayer

Read Deuteronomy 4:29 and answer questions 24-25:

But if from there you seek the LORD your God, you will find him if you look for him with all your heart and with all your soul. Deuteronomy 4:29

24. Moses tells the Israelites that if you seek the _____ **LORD** _____ your God, you will find Him if you look for Him with all your _____ **heart** _____ and with all your _____ **soul** _____.

25. As a Christian leader, how are *you* seeking the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul?

Personal Answer

What other nation is so great as to have their gods near them the way the LORD our God is near us whenever we pray to him? Deuteronomy 4:7

26. According to Deuteronomy 4:7, the LORD our God is _ **near** _ us whenever we _ **pray** _

Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!' Matthew 7:23

27. Read Matthew 7:23. Do you think it likely that Jesus will tell believers *sincerely* seeking Him in prayer each day, "I never knew you" ? Yes **No** (Circle One) Explain your answer:

Jesus is faithful and will help those genuinely seeking to know Him. Being honest and talking with Jesus every day assures a true and vibrant relationship. The best way to know someone is to talk and listen in a sincere manner.

Recall the verse you memorized in day one of this lesson: *This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us.* 1 John 5:14

28. According to 1 John 5:14, if you ask anything according to God's will He hears you.

Lesson 9: Prayer of a Leader (Day Four) Polishing the Heart

29. Have you surrendered every aspect of your life to the Holy Spirit? Y N (Circle One)

Personal Answer

30. Is there anything you are trying to control and have not given to God? Y N (Circle One)

Personal Answer

31. Pray and ask God to loosen your grip on everything in your life except Him. How can your CLI Bible Minister pray for you in this area?

Personal Prayer Request: CLI Bible Minister, please pray for your "Learner's" request and write to him or her how you have prayed.

But you, dear friends, build yourselves up in your most holy faith and pray in the Holy Spirit. Jude 1:20

32. Read Jude 1:20. Jude,¹ the half brother of Jesus, tells us to build ourselves up in our most holy faith and pray in the Holy Spirit.

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints. Ephesians 6:18

33. Read Ephesians 6:18. The apostle Paul tells us to pray (v. 18a) in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests.

¹ Jude is another form of the Hebrew name Judah and Greek Judas. Mary was Jesus' and Jude's mother; however Joseph was Jude's biological father and Jesus' step father. Jesus was conceived by the Holy Spirit and is God's Son.

Let’s look at some of the definitions or meanings of the word “in”. First it means within the limits, bounds, or area of such as *in the living room* or *in the water*. Praying in the Spirit means that you are totally immersed in the Spirit. He surrounds you and envelopes you.

34. When you pray, are you aware of the Spirit’s presence? Y N (Circle one)

Personal Answer

Another definition of “in” is having the activity, occupation, or function of, such as a *life in politics; the officer in command*. Your activity, occupation and function of praying is guided and influenced by the Holy Spirit.

35. Are you functioning or performing according to the Spirit’s governing body?
Yes No Sometimes (Circle One)

Personal Answer

Lastly, “in” means with the aim or purpose of doing something. When you pray in the Spirit, you have God’s aim or purpose in mind. In other words, your prayers are God centered.

In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express.²⁷ And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God's will. Romans 8:26-27

36. Read Romans 8:26-27. How do God and the Spirit help us pray for God’s purpose?

The Spirit dwells in believers (John 14:16-17) and intercedes (asks on one’s behalf) in accordance with God’s will. God and the Spirit are one so that when God searches your heart He will find the Spirit pleading on your behalf with His aim and purpose in mind. God hears your prayers through His Spirit.

Personal Application:

37. Pray “in” the Spirit and ask God for an opportunity to serve Jesus in love today. Share how the Spirit led You:

Personal Answer

Lesson 9: Prayer of a Leader (Day Five) Cleaning the Heart**I. Staying Strong and Courageous**

Definition: The word strong does mean having physical strength but it also means being firm and emotionally resilient (flexible). It means that one has the necessary emotional qualities to deal with difficult situations including pain, sorrow, loss, and risk. A strong person is firm and urgent about matters of importance.

Definition: Courage is the ability to face danger, difficulty, uncertainty, or pain without being overcome by fear or being sidetracked from a chosen course of action. A courageous person is bold, alert, secure and able to prove oneself in a purpose.

Read Joshua 1:9 and answer questions 38-40:

Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9

Definition: A command is an order given by someone in authority. It is not a suggestion but explicit instruction to do something. The one in authority expects the command to be followed.

38. God is speaking to Joshua, appointed to take over the leadership of the Israelites after Moses

had died. God *commanded* Joshua, "Be _____ **strong** _____ and _____ **courageous** _____.

Do not be _____ **terrified** _____; do not be _____ **discouraged** _____ for the _____ **LORD** _____

your _____ **God** _____ will be with you wherever you go."

39. What is the reason God gives to His leader Joshua for being strong and courageous?

For or because the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.

40. What meaning does God's command to Joshua have for *you* as a Christian leader?

Personal Answer – but hopefully will give him or her confidence to step out and do God's will and purposes.

Strongholds are areas that Satan and his followers dominate or occupy. They may be individual strongholds like an addiction, group strongholds like gangs or industry strongholds like pornography.

41. Name one or two strongholds that are in your midst (near you) and how the battle is going?

Personal Answer

42. How may the CLI Bible Minister join you in prayer in regard to these battles?

Personal Prayer Request – CLI Bible Minister, please pray and acknowledge your prayer to your Learner.

II. Listening

'Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know.'
Jeremiah 33:3

43. In Jeremiah 33:3 God says to “Call to me and _____ **I** _____ will _____ **answer** _____ you and _____ **tell** _____ you _____ **great** _____ and _____ **unsearchable** _____ things you do not know.

Read 1 Samuel 3:10-11 and answer questions 44-46:

The LORD came and stood there, calling as at the other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" Then Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."¹¹ And the LORD said to Samuel: "See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make the ears of everyone who hears of it tingle."
1 Samuel 3:10-11

44. What was the first thing Samuel said to God?

"Speak, for your servant is listening."

45. What did the LORD say after Samuel replied that he was listening?

"See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make the ears of everyone who hears of it tingle."

46. How do *you* listen to God?

Personal Answer – but here are some ideas from this Lesson:

Some practical ways to listen to God are by quietly reading the Bible and waiting for God to speak to you through the text. God may speak to you through other people and circumstances throughout the day. Invite God to speak to you each day and be prepared to listen. Most of us will get a clear impression that God is speaking to us although we do not hear His audible voice.

Personal Application: Meditate on Psalm 138:3 and 145:18:

When I called, you answered me; you made me bold and stouthearted. Psalm 138:3

The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. Psalm 145:18

47. Seek to listen to the Lord today. What did He impress upon you?

Personal Answer: CLI Bible Minister, please comment appropriately to his or her answer.

Lesson 9: Prayer of a Leader (Day Six) Brilliant Living Diamond

Surely the Sovereign LORD does nothing without revealing his plan to his servants the prophets.
Amos 3:7

48. God says in Amos 3:7: Surely the ___ **Sovereign** ___ LORD does nothing without
___ **revealing** ___ His ___ **plan** ___ to His ___ **servants** ____, the prophets.

Read Genesis 18:17-19 and answer questions 49-50:

Then the LORD said, "Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do?"¹⁸ Abraham will surely become a great and powerful nation, and all nations on earth will be blessed through him.¹⁹ For I have chosen him, so that he will direct his children and his household after him to keep the way of the LORD by doing what is right and just, so that the LORD will bring about for Abraham what he has promised him." Genesis 18:17-19

49. Did God tell Abraham what He was going to do? **Y** N (Circle One)

50. Was God's plan for Abraham alone or for all nations on the earth?

All nations

51. Has God given you a vision? Y N (Circle one)

Personal Answer

From Lesson: If you do not have a vision, pray and ask Jesus for a vision that glorifies God and is fruitful for the Kingdom.

52. Would you like to share your vision?

Personal Answer - CLI Bible Minister, please comment appropriately to his or her vision.

In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways,² but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe. Hebrews 1:1-2

53. Read Hebrews 1:1-2. Is it possible to receive a vision from God of what He is going to do apart from Jesus Christ? Y **N** (Circle one)

Note: No one can have a personal relationship with God apart from Jesus Christ. Jesus restores our relationship with God and thus makes it possible for God to give us His plans and vision. God's plans and vision for you, me and the world involve Jesus Christ's death for our sin and resurrection unto life.

I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. John 15:15

54. Jesus says in John 15:15 that a servant does not know his ___**master's**___ business.

Instead, I have called you ___**friends**___, for everything that I learned from my

_____ **Father** ____ I have made _____ **known** _____ to _____ **you** _____.

- End Lesson 9 Questions and Answers -

Next: Lesson 10: Faith of a Leader

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