



Time to Pray

Conference and Special Events

The *Time to Pray Conference* is a workshop in prayer. It is a place to facilitate the introduction to and the desire of personal transformation in order that we may transcend the daily grind or as Paul puts it that *we may not be conformed to this world but that we may be transformed by the renewing of our minds* (Romans 12:2a); and that through this transformation we are enabled to become active participants in the Kingdom of Heaven (*Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.* Romans 12:2b)

The *Time to Pray Conference* may be tailored to fit the needs of your body of believers and your event. It may be designed as a 'taste' of the habits of prayer or it may be a weekend long prayer intensive. All sessions are designed to not only provide instruction but also to encourage participation and time to practice the principles. Sessions may be selected and combined to best serve the needs of your event. While there is an exciting inspirational dimension to these one time events, it is our hope that the special events serve as a call to a deeper walk with the Lord. For it is only by putting into practice the lesson of Christ that we can be truly transformed into His image and for most of us this practice requires more than a one-time event.

Following is a synopsis of each of the available sessions. The times after each session indicate the length of the session. For some of the sessions more than one time duration is provided, this is an indication that the material may be provided in several levels of format and participation.

Session #1: *Rejoice always: pray without ceasing...* In this session, participants will explore how to pray without ceasing and what that means and looks like in today's busy world. The lessons from Brother Lawrence's Practicing the Presence of God as well as personal life experiences are investigated as part of this session. (1 hour)

Session #2: *Breathing the Word of God...* The words from Psalm 103 will be utilized to guide participants in simple breath prayers that are foundational in providing means for resetting our spirits throughout each day. (1 hour)

Session #3: *Praying God's Word...* The questions, "how do I know God's will and how do I know what to pray?" are frequently asked. One of the simplest answers is to open His holy word and sit at His feet and pray back to Him, His Word. In this session, prayers of the scripture will be explored and examples will be provided for incorporating God's Word into our prayer lives. (2 hours, 3hours)

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Session #4: *Intercessory Prayer* ...Intercessory Prayer is the work of prayer it is the active, real, far reaching fruit producing arm of prayer. This session kick's off with a Top 10 scripture based list of why to pray and continues to use scripture throughout in order to discover the who, what, when, and where of prayer. (2 hours, 3 hours)

Session #5: *Silence & Solitude*... The practice of sitting still and listening for God's voice is a difficult if not impossible art in today's world of TV, DVDs, MP3 players and cell phones. Based on the lessons from the Quaker tradition of 'quite meetings', this session teaches practical tips for quieting our minds, stilling our spirits, and centering our hearts on God. (1hour, 2hours, full day, weekend silent retreat)

Session #6: *How do I pray? ... (Prayer styles and personality/temperament)* Having trouble keeping focused during prayer? Feel you are not making a connection? Do you find your prayer life is boring yourself to sleep? Maybe you have not yet discovered the prayer style that most sparks your temperament to life. There are many different styles and methods of praying. What works well for me may not work well for you. This session will explore the depths of the some of the styles of prayer as exhibited by the early saints. Additionally these prayer styles will be mapped into the strengths and weaknesses of our temperaments. Using the familiar words of scripture, participants will experiences each of the different prayer styles. Prayer Primer by Elaine Goddard is the text for this session. (4 hours, full day, weekend retreat)

Session #7: *Live the Life of Prayer*...Prayer is not something we go do. It is not a set of words we say. It is not something to be regulated to Sunday morning service or the pre meal blessing. Prayer is life. This session will take participants through the payer that Jesus taught, *The Lord's Prayer*, with the understanding that the tenets that Jesus taught within *The Lord's Prayer* are not just words to say, but words to live. (4 hours, full day, weekend retreat)

I pray that out of His glorious riches He may strengthen you with power through His Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge – that you may be filled to the measure of the fullness of God. (Ephesians 3:16-18)

Blessing in the Name of Christ Jesus,

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