



EVERY HOME FOR CHRIST

PRACTICAL PRAYER

*Experiencing the
Delight of a
Practical Prayer Life*

Booklet Two (of Four)



Dick Eastman's
SCHOOL OF
PRAYER
EVERY HOME FOR CHRIST
WWW.EHC.ORG

By Dick Eastman

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Practical Prayer

Experiencing the Delight of a Practical Prayer Life

Session Five (of 14)

12 Dynamic Steps for Developing a Daily “Practical Prayer Encounter”

Based on the book *The Hour That Changes the World*
by Dick Eastman

12 Steps for Cultivating Daily Delight in Personal Prayer

“Could you not watch with Me one hour?” (Matthew 26:40)

4. Step Four

Basic Definition

The Act of _____ Appropriation

Action Focus:

Supernatural _____

KEY WORD: _____



Voices from the past . . .

“Though the Bible be crowded with golden promises from cover to cover, yet will they be inoperative until we turn them into prayer.”

—F. B. Meyer

SCRIPTURE PRAYING: A Biblical Basis

EPHESIANS 6:17 (NLT)

Put on salvation as your helmet, and take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

JEREMIAH 23:29 (NLT)

“Does not my word burn like fire?” says the LORD. “Is it not like a mighty hammer that smashes a rock to pieces?”

HEBREWS 4:12 (NLT)

For the word of God is alive and powerful. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires.

PSALM 56:4,10 (NKJV)

⁴⁾ In God (I will praise His word), In God I have put my trust; I will not fear. What can flesh do to me? ...

¹⁰⁾ In God (I will praise *His* word), In the LORD (I will praise *His* word).

NUMBERS 23:19-20 (NKJV)

¹⁹⁾ God is not a man, that He should lie, Nor a son of man, that He should repent. Has He said, and will He not do? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?

²⁰⁾ Behold, I have received *a command* to bless; He has blessed, and I cannot reverse it.

Summary Definition of SCRIPTURE PRAYING...

A time to _____

Voices from the past . . .

"Every promise of Scripture is a writing of God which may be pleaded before Him with this reasonable request, 'Do as thou hast said!' The Creator will not cheat the creature who depends upon this truth, and far more the heavenly Father will not break His Word to His own child." —Charles Spurgeon

SCRIPTURE PRAYING: A Prayer Application

Employ _____ Word.

Voices from the past . . .

"The only thing that matters in our warfare is to throw all the energies of our being into the faithful use of this precious blade—the sword of God's Word!" —Amy Carmichael

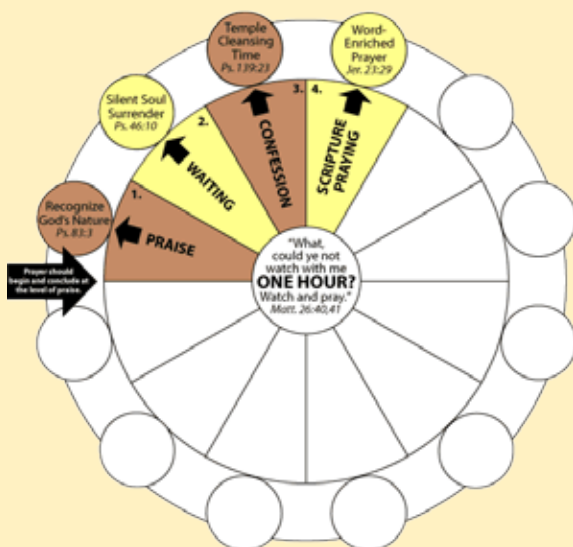
SCRIPTURE PRAYING: A Life Application

Claim a _____ promise.

Voices from the past . . .

"If there is progress in understanding prayer in depth, it is by the study of the Bible." —Donald Demaray

"Prayerful study of the Bible is indispensable for powerful prayer." —Andrew Murray



Where to Next?

SCRIPTURE PRAYING...

Four Ways to Get Started and Keep Going!

Following are four suggestions to help you personally apply this aspect of the 12 in daily prayer.

A Practical Prayer Summary Step 4 in World Changing Prayer



1. When bringing Scripture into your devotional hour, ask God to bless His Word to your spiritual body, just as He blesses natural food to your physical body.
2. Examine a passage from either the Gospels, the Epistles, Psalms, or Proverbs. Look carefully for specific ways to apply each verse to prayer.
3. As you study a verse (or verses), ask yourself what petition this passage prompts you to make, or what promise this passage contains that stands directly behind a specific petition.
4. Develop actual prayers based on the thoughts and phrases included in a verse (or verses) of Scripture and offer those prayers confidently to the Lord.

AfterThoughts

Ponder Points:

Discuss (or ponder) why you feel God's Word is so important to our praying. What do you think Charles Spurgeon meant by "pleading God's promises" in prayer? What do you think it means to say that the Bible is "a living extension of God's nature and character"?

Prayer Points:

Take a moment to pray for a personal need (or the need of a friend or situation) using a favorite Scripture or Bible passage as a basis for that prayer. Weave phrases of this verse or passage into your prayer. (If you can't think of a passage, use a verse or two from the 23rd Psalm as the basis of your prayer.)

Practical Prayer

Experiencing the Delight of a Practical Prayer Life

Session Six (of 14)

12 Steps for Cultivating Daily Delight in Personal Prayer

“Could you not watch with Me one hour?” (Matthew 26:40)

5. Step Five

Basic Definition

The Act of Mental _____

Action Focus:

Sensitive _____

KEY WORD: _____



WATCHING: A Biblical Basis

COLOSSIANS 4:2 (NIV)

Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.

COLOSSIANS 4:2 (MSG)

Pray diligently. Stay alert, with your eyes wide open in gratitude.

ISAIAH 62:6 (NLT)

O Jerusalem, I have posted watchmen on your walls; they will pray day and night, continually. Take no rest, all you who pray to the LORD.

PSALM 130:7 (MSG)

O Israel, wait and watch for God—with God’s arrival comes love, with God’s arrival comes generous redemption.

ISAIAH 52:8,10 (NLT)

⁸) The watchmen shout and sing with joy, for before their very eyes they see the LORD returning to Jerusalem...

¹⁰) The LORD has demonstrated his holy power before the eyes of all the nations. All the ends of the earth will see the victory of our God.

WATCHING in Prayer: An Overview

To watch is to be alert.

Alertness Defined:

“The ability to anticipate _____ responses to that which is taking place around me; to _____ on what is happening in a situation so as to _____ accordingly.”

Voices from the past . . .

“We must not only be watchful in keeping the time of prayer but also be watchful during the prayer time so that we may really pray. We must watch in our prayer lest it become vague. It is evident that many matters need to be settled, many people require intercession, the central message of God must be revealed, and not a few problems wait to be solved; yet at the time of prayer, there does not seem to be any definite subject for which to pray, and there is a total lack of words to express our prayer. We struggle to say two or three sentences before we cease altogether. Clearly a satanic assault is involved here.”

—Watchman Nee

Summary Definition of WATCHING...

A time to _____

Voices from the past . . .

“To pray correctly one must be mentally alert and vigilant. Much praying is hampered by a dull, drowsy frame of mind.”

—Dr. Curtis Mitchel

WATCHING: A Prayer Application

Develop holy _____.

Voices from the past . . .

“Always be on the alert to travel toward the goal of prayer, to disallow any unwanted words from mixing in, and to keep yourselves from praying prayers that are not prayers at all.”

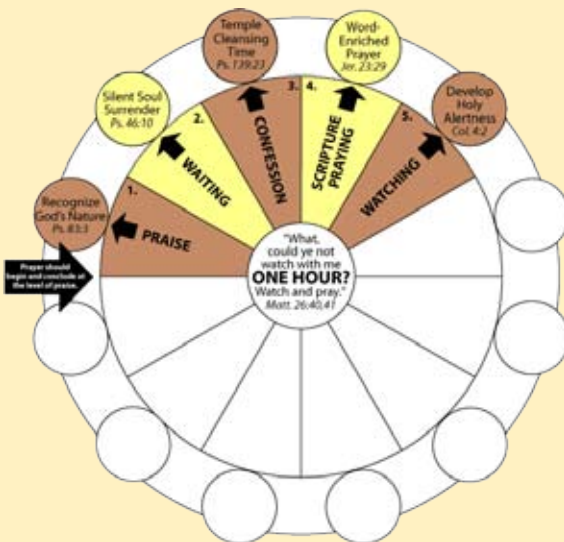
—J. C. Ryle

WATCHING: A Life Application

Watch out for _____.

Voices from the past . . .

“If I can imagine what it must be like to be the one for whom I am praying, then I find that I can begin to intercede for that person. My imagination leads me on to want to be more deeply involved with him in his own life. This involvement leads to caring, caring leads to love, and love leads to intercession.” —Anne Townsend



Where to Next?

WATCHING...

Four Ways to Get Started and Keep Going!

Following are four suggestions to help you personally apply this aspect of the 12 in daily prayer.



A Practical Prayer Summary *Step 5 in World Changing Prayer*

1. Take a few moments during prayer to become spiritually alert. Watch for methods Satan may try to use to hinder your Christian walk that day. Prayerfully claim power to defeat Satan in each of these areas.
2. Read denominational or missionary-evangelism newsletters/magazines to help become alert to specific needs in God's work around the world.
3. Prayerfully recall various news developments from newspapers, the Internet or television that deserve special prayer.
4. Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal further spiritual facts about these issues. This will aid you in praying more intelligently for these needs.

AfterThoughts

Ponder Points:

Discuss (or ponder) why you think "watching" is something that should be an actual "step" during a time of prayer. Why is the Holy Spirit so vital in assisting the praying Christian in the act of watching (keeping alert) during a time of personal prayer?

Prayer Points:

Looking back over the past 24 hours, can you think of something you have heard or read in the news that is worthy of your prayers of intercession? To “watch” is to let the Holy Spirit reveal the significance of such issues. Turn what you sense into a prayer of intercession.

Practical Prayer

Experiencing the Delight of a Practical Prayer Life

Session Seven (of 14)

*12 Steps for Cultivating Daily
Delight in Personal Prayer*

“Could you not watch with Me one hour?” (Matthew 26:40)

6. Step Six

Basic Definition

The Act of Earnest _____

Action Focus:

Compassionate _____

KEY WORD: _____



Voices from the past . . .

"Prayer must be broad in its scope—it must plead for others. Intercession for others is the hallmark of all true prayer."

—E. M. Bounds

INTERCESSION: A Biblical Basis

I TIMOTHY 2:1-2 (NIV)

- 1) I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone—
- 2) for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.

ROMANS 15:30 (NLT)

Dear brothers and sisters, I urge you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to join in my struggle by praying to God for me. Do this because of your love for me, given to you by the Holy Spirit.

ROMANS 15:30 (MSG)

I have one request, dear friends: Pray for me. Pray strenuously with and for me—to God the Father, through the power of our Master Jesus, through the love of the Spirit—that I will be delivered from the lions' den of unbelievers in Judea.

NUMBERS 16:47-48 (NLT)

⁴⁷⁾ Aaron did as Moses told him and ran out among the people. The plague had already begun to strike down the people, but Aaron burned the incense and purified the people.

⁴⁸⁾ He stood between the dead and the living, and the plague stopped.

PSALM 2:8 (NLT) WITH ROMANS 8:17 (NLT)

Psalm 2:8: “Only ask, and I will give you the nations as your inheritance, the whole earth as your possession.”

Romans 8:17: “And since we are his children, we will share his treasures—for everything God gives to his Son, Christ, is ours, too. But if we are to share his glory, we must also share his suffering.”

Claims for the Nations...

1. Open _____
To _____ the Gospel

COLOSSIANS 4:2-3 (NIV)

²⁾ Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.

³⁾ And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains.

2. Open _____
To _____ the Gospel

ACTS 26:17-18 (NIV)

¹⁷⁾ ...I am sending you to them [the LOST]

¹⁸⁾ to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.

3. Open _____...

To _____ the Gospel

2 CORINTHIANS 4:6 (NIV)

For God...made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

4. Open _____...

To _____ the Gospel

ISAIAH 45:8 (NLT)

Open up, O heavens, and pour out your righteousness. Let the earth open wide so salvation and righteousness can sprout up together...

Summary Definition of INTERCESSION...

A time to _____

Voices from the past . . .

"We often wonder at Luther, who spent three hours each day in prayer and meditation; at Bishop Andrews, spending the greater part of five hours each day in fellowship with God; at John Welsh, who thought that a day was ill spent which did not include eight or ten hours of closet communion. It seems to us as if such prolonged praying must involve an endless monotony of vain repetitions. We forget that when men are sent to market with a host of commissions from their neighbors and friends, they must needs tarry longer than when they go only for themselves. It would be a very wholesome thing if the causes of others were to detain us more constantly before the Lord." —F. B. Meyer

Understanding INTERCESSION: An Overview

Intercession is derived from the two Latin words:

- A. Inter (meaning “_____”)
- B. Cedere (meaning “_____”)

To intercede, thus, is to become “a go-between”!

INTERCESSION: A Prayer Application

Contend for _____.

Voices from the past . . .

“When we pray for others we render them the highest service by treating them with such great dignity that we voice their needs before the throne of the King of the universe.”

—David A. Hubbard

INTERCESSION: A Life Application

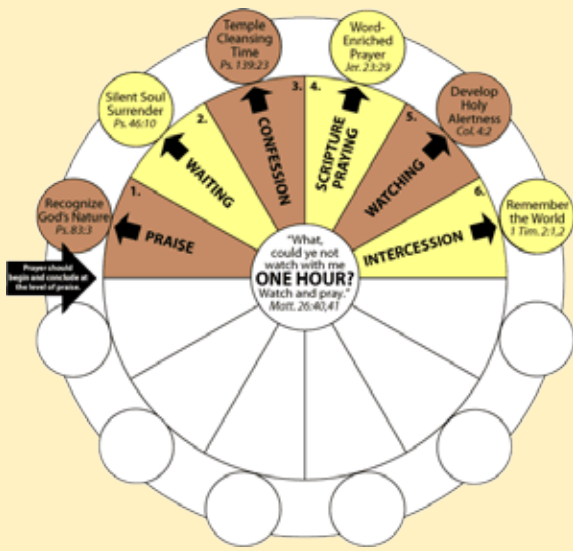
Help someone in _____.

Ananias—A Case Study

“Intercession is to stand between a lost soul and an almighty God, praying that this person will be delivered from the snare of Satan. Ananias, the disciple from Damascus whom God chose to pray over Saul of Tarsus (the future chief apostle Paul) is an excellent example of a faithful intercessor (Acts 9:10-18). He became a spiritual ‘mediator’ on behalf of Saul. Ananias became so involved in his praying that his intercessions led him into a life-threatening situation. He knew well the story of how Saul of Tarsus had been systematically imprisoning Christians. In a sense, he was taking

his life into his own hands by going before Saul to pray for him as the Lord had commanded. Yet, Ananias went into this spiritual battle and boldly placed his hands upon Saul of Tarsus. Through his prayer of intercession God removed the scales from Saul's eyes and he became Paul, a living witness for Jesus Christ. Yet, we must never forget that a spiritual battle had been fought at the outset over the soul of this man from Tarsus."

—Dick Eastman



Where to Next?

INTERCESSION...

Four Ways to Get Started and Keep Going!

Following are four suggestions to help you personally apply this aspect of the 12 in daily prayer.

A Practical Prayer Summary
Step 6 in World Changing Prayer



1. Carefully prepare for intercession by developing a specific plan that includes special prayer for God’s work around the world.
2. Summon a new compassion for these moments of intercessions so your praying will reach out to the lost or suffering with genuine concern.
3. Fill your intercession with the four spiritual claims: Ask God to open doors, open minds, open hearts and open heavens.
4. Endeavor to include specific countries and their leaders during your time of intercession as well as unreached people groups.

AfterThoughts

Ponder Points:

Discuss (or ponder) why intercessory prayer, in which the believer becomes a “go-between” in praying for others, most aligns us with the purposes of Christ who sits at the right hand of God in heaven. Why do you think many Bible scholars of the past have labeled intercession as the highest form of prayer?

AfterThoughts

Prayer Points:

Pray for someone you know (by name) who needs a “go-between” to help him or her fight either a spiritual, financial, physical or relational battle. It may be a family member, friend or even a person in the media, government, business world or education.

Additional Notes
