



EVERY HOME FOR CHRIST

# PRACTICAL PRAYER

*Experiencing the  
Delight of a  
Practical Prayer Life*

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*Booklet Three (of Four)*

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*By Dick Eastman*

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Every Home for Christ • P. O. Box 64000  
Colorado Springs, CO 80962  
www.ehc.org • 1-800-423-5054

# Practical Prayer

## Experiencing the Delight of a Practical Prayer Life

Session Eight (of 14)

### 12 Steps for Cultivating Daily Delight in Personal Prayer

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

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### 12 Steps for Cultivating Daily Delight in Personal Prayer

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

## 7. Step Seven

### Basic Definition

The Act of Personal \_\_\_\_\_

Action Focus:

Personalized \_\_\_\_\_

KEY WORD: \_\_\_\_\_



## Voices from the past . . .

“Whether we like it or not, asking is the rule of the Kingdom. It is a rule that will never be altered in anybody’s case. If the royal and divine Son of God cannot be exempted from the rule of asking that He may have, you and I cannot expect to have the rule relaxed in our favor.”

—Charles Spurgeon

## *PETITION: A Biblical Basis*

**LUKE 11:9-10 (NKJV)**

<sup>9)</sup> So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.

<sup>10)</sup> For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.

**LUKE 11:9-10 (MSG)**

Here's what I'm saying: Ask and you'll get; Seek and you'll find; Knock and the door will open. Don't bargain with God. Be direct. Ask for what you need.

**MARK 11:24 (NLT)**

I tell you, you can pray for anything, and if you believe that you've received it, it will be yours.

**MARK 11:24 (MSG)**

That's why I urge you to pray for absolutely everything, ranging from small to large. Include everything as you embrace this God-life, and you'll get God's everything.

**PHILIPPIANS 4:6, 19 (NLT)**

<sup>6)</sup> Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done...

<sup>19)</sup> And this same God who takes care of me will supply all your needs from his glorious riches, which have been given to us in Christ Jesus.

**JAMES 4:2B (NKJV)**

Yet you do not have because you do not ask.

### *Summary Definition of PETITION...*

A time to \_\_\_\_\_

## *Voices from the past . . .*

"Asking is the symbol of our desire. Some things God will not give until we want them enough to ask." —E. Stanley Jones

## *Voices from the past . . .*

"We are careful to ask with a beggar's humility, to seek with a servant's carefulness, and to knock with the confidence of a friend."

—Unknown

### *PETITION: A Prayer Application*

Share personal \_\_\_\_\_.

## *Voices from the past . . .*

"Do you want to take the sting out of trouble? Take it to God and pray it through. Don't just say, 'Lord help me.' But pray through the situation. Analyze it; take it apart, bring it to God piece by piece. Verbalize to God the fact that you're hurting, you're in trouble, you're scared, you're in danger, or your world has fallen in upon you."

—Clarence Crawford

### *PETITION: A Life Application*

Honestly express personal \_\_\_\_\_.

## *Voices from the past . . .*

"We Christians may ask our Father for all that we need. Only, let our desires be restrained, and our prayers unselfish. The personal petitions contained in the Lord's prayer are very modest—daily bread, forgiveness, and deliverance from sin's power. Yet these comprise all things that pertain to life and godliness."

—Dr. David McIntyre



## Where to Next?

PETITION...

### 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 7 in World Changing Prayer*

1. Begin your petition by asking the Holy Spirit to help you claim only those desires that will bring special honor to the Lord.
2. Make a mental list of specific needs you have for that very day and offer each need to God.
3. Enlarge a petition carefully, taking time to explain to God why you desire an answer for that request.
4. Frequently examine your motives for claiming a petition. Be certain they are pure in the sight of God.

# AfterThoughts

## Ponder Points:

Discuss (or ponder) why you think God has ordained that His children need to ask for blessings when He easily could give us what we need without our asking. What biblical basis do you think Charles Spurgeon had for saying, “Whether we like it or not, asking is the rule of the Kingdom?”

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## Prayer Points:

Ask God, very specifically, for something personal that you feel is clearly in line with His will. Be as detailed as possible in asking for this specific need. In prayer, tell God what your basis is for believing this petition is in line with His will.

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# Practical Prayer

## Experiencing the Delight of a Practical Prayer Life

*Session Nine (of 14)*

## 12 Steps for Cultivating Daily Delight in Personal Prayer

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

### 8. Step Eight

#### *Basic Definition*

The Act of Expressed \_\_\_\_\_

Action Focus:

Articulated \_\_\_\_\_

KEY WORD: \_\_\_\_\_



### *Voices from the past . . .*

“Thanksgiving is the act of expressing mental or oral gratitude to God for His blessings and mercies. Moreover, the giving of thanks should include heartfelt praise in accepting things we do not like, and thanking God that the apparently evil tidings were not worse ones. Thus it was that John Wesley could thank God that he broke only his arm in an accident and not his head.”

—Dr. Harold Lindsell

#### *THANKSGIVING: A Biblical Basis*

##### **1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-18 (NKJV)**

- 16) Rejoice always,
- 17) pray without ceasing,
- 18) in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

##### **1 THESSALONIANS 5:18 (NLT)**

Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.

##### **COLOSSIANS 4:2 (MSG)**

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

**PSALM 100:4 (NIV)**

Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.

**COLOSSIANS 3:15 (NIV)**

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.

**HEBREWS 12:28 (NIV)**

Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe.

***Summary Definition of THANKSGIVING . . .***

A time to \_\_\_\_\_

## ***Voices from the past . . .***

"Among all the apostles none suffered so much as Paul; but none of them do we find so often giving thanks as he. Take his letter to the Philippians. Remember what he suffered at Philippi; how they laid many stripes upon him, and cast him into prison. Yet every chapter in that epistle speaks of rejoicing and giving thanks. There is that well-known passage: 'Be careful for nothing, but in everything, by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto God'" (Philippians 4:6).

—Dwight L. Moody

### ***THANKSGIVING: A Prayer Application***

Confess personal \_\_\_\_\_

## ***Voices from the past . . .***

"Thanksgiving will draw our hearts out to God and keep us engaged with Him; it will take our attention from ourselves and give the Spirit room to move in our hearts." —Andrew Murray



# THANKSGIVING: A Life Application

Become a \_\_\_\_\_ thank you!



Where to Next?

THANKSGIVING...

## 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 8 in World Changing Prayer



1. Begin thanksgiving by thinking about all God has given you in recent days.
2. Use these moments of reflection as a basis for offering specific thanksgiving for spiritual, material, physical and external blessings.
3. Frequently thank God “in advance” for blessings you expect Him to bestow on you in the future.
4. Thank God for at least one particular blessing you have not thanked Him for previously.

# AfterThoughts

## Ponder Points:

Discuss (or ponder) why you think it is important that we verbalize our thanks for the blessings God has given us. In what ways do you think we can take the act of thanksgiving during prayer into our everyday life by developing a thankful spirit?

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## Prayer Points:

Take time to thank God for at least one blessing He has given you that you are certain you have never thanked Him for in the past. Then, thank Him, by faith, for an answered prayer that has not yet come, but something for which you are trusting Him for an answer.

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# Practical Prayer

## Experiencing the Delight of a Practical Prayer Life

Session Ten (of 14)

### 12 Steps for Cultivating Daily Delight in Personal Prayer

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

## 9. Step Nine

### Basic Definition

The Act of Melodic \_\_\_\_\_

Action Focus:

Creative \_\_\_\_\_

KEY WORD: \_\_\_\_\_



## Voices from the past . . .

“The gift of language combined with the gift of song is given to man that he should proclaim the Word of God through music.”

—Martin Luther

### *SINGING: A Biblical Basis*

PSALM 100:1-2 (NLT)

- 1) Shout with joy to the Lord, all the earth!
- 2) Worship the Lord with gladness. Come before him, singing with joy.

**PSALM 27:6 (NLT)**

Then I will hold my head high above my enemies who surround me. At his sanctuary I will offer sacrifices with shouts of joy, singing and praising the Lord with music.

**EPHESIANS 5:18-19 (NLT)**

<sup>18)</sup> Don't be drunk with wine, because that will ruin your life. Instead, be filled with the Holy Spirit,  
<sup>19)</sup> singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, and making music to the Lord in your hearts.

**PSALM 126:5-6 (NLT)**

<sup>5)</sup> Those who plant in tears will harvest with shouts of joy.  
<sup>6)</sup> They weep as they go to plant their seed, but they sing as they return with the harvest.

**PSALM 69:30 (NLT)**

Then I will praise God's name with singing, and I will honor him with thanksgiving.

**2 SAMUEL 22:47-50 (NLT)**

<sup>47)</sup> The Lord lives! Praise to my Rock! May God, the Rock of my salvation, be exalted!  
<sup>48)</sup> He is the God who pays back those who harm me; he brings down the nations under me  
<sup>49)</sup> and delivers me from my enemies. You hold me safe beyond the reach of my enemies; you save me from violent opponents.  
<sup>50)</sup> For this, O Lord, I will praise you among the nations; I will sing praises to your name.

***Summary Definition of SINGING . . .***

A time to \_\_\_\_\_

## *Voices from the past . . .*

“We do not sufficiently often forget our own petty wants and anxieties, and launch down our tiny tributaries, until we are borne out into the great ocean of praise, which is ever breaking in music around the person of Jesus. Let a part of our private and public devotion be even dedicated to the praise of Jesus—when we shall break forth into some hymn, or psalm, or spiritual song, singing and praising Christ with angels and archangels and all the host of the redeemed.”

—F. B. Meyer

### *SINGING: A Prayer Application*

Worship with \_\_\_\_\_

## *Voices from the past . . .*

“I sing the doxology and dismiss the devil. I believe truly that Satan cannot endure it and so slips out of the room—more or less—when there is a true song.”

—Amy Carmichael

### *SINGING: A Life Application*

Do something extra \_\_\_\_\_.



## Where to Next?

SINGING...

### 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 9 in World Changing Prayer*

1. Pause in your devotional hour to sing a specific song unto the Lord.
2. Select a special theme for your song, such as praise, thanksgiving, or a favorite passage of Scripture.
3. Ask the Holy Spirit to create an original melody in your heart so your song is truly “a new song.”
4. Don’t hesitate to sing “songs of thanksgiving” for specific blessings or victories you believe God will give you in the days ahead.

# AfterThoughts

## Ponder Points:

Discuss (or ponder) why singing to the Lord falls into the category of “specialized praise.” Some Bible scholars believe that references in the Psalms to offering “high praises” could refer to singing praise to the Lord. Why do you think that might qualify as “high praise”?

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## Prayer Points:

Select a favorite passage of Scripture that you are familiar with. If you can't think of a passage, use a Psalm such as Psalm 23, 27 or 63. Now, as you look at the words of this passage, begin to softly hum a melody from your heart. After humming for a few moments, sing out the words of the passage you have selected with the melody you have been humming. Don't be ashamed if you think you lack a good singing voice.

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