

New England
DISCIPLE-MAKERS WEEKEND

Disciples Who Pray

October 25-27, 2019
Camp Spofford, New Hampshire

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<http://disciplemakersnetwork.org>

Objectives of The Weekend

- Encourage and equip men to become disciple-makers of Jesus through fellowship with like-hearted men of God, centered around the written word of God and prayer.
- Help disciple-makers by providing a setting that will reinforce the things they are teaching their disciples.

Our Theme

"With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints."
Ephesians 6:18

"Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with an attitude of thanksgiving." *Colossians 4:2*

"The great people of the earth today are the people who pray. I do not mean those who talk about prayer; nor those who say they believe in prayer; nor those who can explain about prayer; but I mean those who take time and pray. They have not time. It must be taken from something else. This something else is important. Very important and pressing, but still less important and less pressing than prayer." - S.D. Gordon

A Vision for Prayer

Teaching the Basics of Prayer

Praying the Bible

Consistent in Prayer

A Morning of Prayer

Get ready to be encouraged, challenged, and changed!

Schedule

- Friday, October 25
 - 7:00-8:00 - Arrive at Camp Spofford
 - 8:00 – Introduction
 - 9:00 – ***A Vision for Prayer***

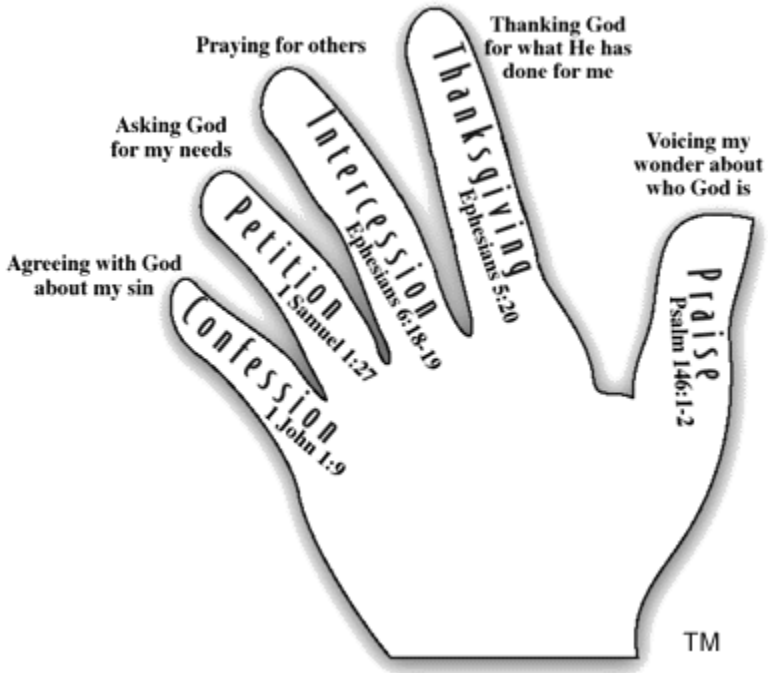
- Saturday, October 26
 - 7:00 – Prayer Ministry
 - 8:00 – Breakfast
 - 9:00 – ***Teaching the Basics of Prayer***
 - 10:30 – ***Praying the Bible***
 - 12:00 – Lunch
 - 1:00 – Workshops
 - 2:30 – Relational Time
 - 5:00 – Dinner
 - 6:30 – Worship/Prayer
 - 7:30 – ***Consistent in Prayer***

- Sunday, October 27
 - 7:00 – Prayer Ministry
 - 8:00 – Breakfast
 - 9:00 – Worship
 - 9:30 – ***A Morning of Prayer***
 - 11:30 – Praying Together
 - 12:00 – Lunch
 - 1:00 – Depart

Friday Evening

A VISION FOR PRAYER
Luke 18:1-17

A VISION FOR PRAYER
Luke 18:1-17



CONVERSATIONAL PRAYER

During the *Weekend* we will spend much time in prayer with other men. Some of those times of prayer will involve guided exercises. However, in every session, there will be an opportunity to pray in your group *free form*, however God might lead you. All of us have our own unique prayer *style* and *vocabulary*. We recognize that. However, we would like all of us to be mindful of the following guidelines that will help us to ***pray together***.

- ***Don't be afraid of silence.*** If people are actually seeking God's guidance during times of prayer, it is natural to have times of silence to listen to God and let Him speak.
- ***Allow God to lead.*** Don't always just pray the first thing that comes to mind. During times of prayer together, ask God, "What do you want me to pray?" and then respond to what He tells you. If you have things that ***you*** would like to pray, ask God if ***He*** wants you to pray those things.
- ***Pray for one subject at a time.*** For example, if you have several things you would like to pray about, pray about one of those things, and then allow other people a chance to pray about the issue which you raised. It is difficult for others to pray with you, and add their prayers to yours, when you pray a list of topics. Later during the prayer time, you can come back to another item if the Lord leads you and the group in that direction.
- ***Pay attention to what others are praying.*** Often instead of listening to others pray, we are thinking about what we want to pray. As others pray, silently join with them in prayer, either affirming what they are praying or silently adding to their request. Sometimes our greatest contribution in prayer is just adding our "amen" to the prayers of others.
- ***Don't preach to others when you pray; talk to God.*** Too often prayers are actually sermons intended for the hearing of the people in the prayer group rather than prayers to God. Prayer is not a time to teach or exhort. It is a time to talk to God. If the Lord brings things to mind that need to be shared with others during a time of prayer, note them mentally or write them down, and then share them at an appropriate time, but don't share them under the guise of prayer.

Saturday Morning, I

TEACHING THE BASICS OF PRAYER

“There is no way to learn to pray but praying. No reasoned philosophy of prayer ever taught a soul to pray.”

-Samuel Chadwick

From Genesis to Revelation, the Word of God invites people to pray. There are over 300 verses in the English Bible that illustrate, commend, command, or describe praying. However, with so many examples and principles about prayer, it is almost impossible to teach an organized theology of prayer. So, **where do we start** when we want to **teach someone to pray**? One good way to teach the **basics of prayer** is by starting where Jesus started. Jesus taught people a prayer to pray.

On your own: Read Matthew 6:5-8 and record your observations below.

| Verse | Why we pray | Principles |
|-------|-------------|------------|
| 5 | | |
| 6 | | |
| 7 | | |
| 8 | | |

Discuss your observations together.

On your own: Read Matthew 6:9-13 and record your observations below.

| Verse | How we pray | Principles |
|-------|-------------|------------|
| 9 | | |
| 10 | | |
| 11 | | |
| 12 | | |
| 13 | | |

Discuss your observations together.

Together, discuss and list the prerequisites for answered prayer that you observe in Matthew 6:5-13.

What other prerequisites for answered prayer are listed in Scripture?

On your own: Write out Matthew 6:9-13 in your own words.

Pray together: Using the guidelines for conversation prayer on page 4, pray Matthew 6:9-13 phrase by phrase together using your own words to amplify the Lord's prayer.

Best Thought

Mark, highlight, or record the **best thought** that stood out to you from this session.

PRAYING THE BIBLE

“Praying the Scriptures **introduces** us to prayer, **invites** us to prayer, **involves** us in prayer, **instructs** us in prayer, **illustrates** prayer, **initiates** our prayer, **inspires** our prayer, **illuminates** our prayer, **increases** our prayer, becomes an **ingredient** of prayer, gives **intelligence** to our prayer, gives **imagery** to our prayer, gives **identification** to our prayer, gives **intonation** to our prayer, gives **intensity** to our prayer, gives **intimacy** to our prayer, gives **incense** to our prayer, gives **intercession** to our prayer, gives **immortality** to our prayer.”

Praying the Scriptures, Judson Cornwall

The Bible is a great prayer book; not just for the psalms, but the whole book. Because all Scripture is inspired by God, all the Bible can be the foundation for our prayers. Any time you read or study the Bible, you can have a “conversation” with God based on what you read. For example ...

- When you read about what God is like, praise Him.
- When you read about what God has done for you, thank Him.
- When you read about the sins and failings that you should avoid, pray in advance for God’s help to avoid those things.
- When you are convicted of your sin when you read God’s word, stop and confess your sin, and then thank God for His forgiveness.
- When you see examples of godly character in the lives of people portrayed in the Bible, ask God to build those characteristics into your own life.
- When you read God’s promises, remind Him that you are trusting Him for those same promises.
- When you read the prayers that are recorded in the Bible, make them your own prayers.

Pair up and use the apostle Paul’s prayers one at a time as follows:

1. Each one **read** the prayer.
2. **Discuss** the prayer.
3. Each one **pray** the prayer as written.
4. Each one **pray** the prayer in his own words in light of his life circumstances.

Romans 1:8-12

“First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is proclaimed in all the world. For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of his Son, that without ceasing I mention you always in my prayers, asking that somehow by God’s will I may now at last succeed in coming to you. For I long to see you, that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to strengthen you—that is, that we may be mutually encouraged by each other’s faith, both yours and mine.”

Romans 15:5-6

“May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

1 Corinthians 1:4-5

“I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and knowledge...)

2 Corinthians 13:7-9

“But we pray to God that you may not do wrong—not that we appear to have met the test, but that you may do what is right, though we may seem to have failed. For we cannot do anything against the truth, but only for the truth. For we are glad when we are weak and you are strong. Your restoration is what we pray for.”

Ephesians 1:15-21

“For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come.”

Ephesians 3:14-19

“For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith- that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.”

Philippians 1:9-11

“And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so 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.”

Colossians 1:9

“And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God. May you be strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy, giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.”

Colossians 4:12

“Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant of Christ Jesus, greets you, always struggling on your behalf in his prayers, that you may stand mature and fully assured in all the will of God.”

1 Thessalonians 1:2-3

“We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers, remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.”

1 Thessalonians 3:9-11

“For what thanksgiving can we return to God for you, for all the joy that we feel for your sake before our God, as we pray most earnestly night and day that we may see you face to face and supply what is lacking in your faith? Now may our God and Father himself, and our Lord Jesus, direct our way to you, and may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you, so that he may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.”

2 Thessalonians 1:3

“We ought always to give thanks to God for you brothers, as is right, because your faith is growing abundantly, and the love of every one of you for one another is increasing.”

2 Thessalonians 1:11-12

“To this end we always pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his calling and may fulfill every resolve for good and every work of faith by his power, so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.”

2 Thessalonians 3:5

“May the Lord direct your hearts to the love of God and to the steadfastness of Christ.”

Bring your group together:

Based on Paul’s prayers, pray together and ask God to use this weekend.

Best Thought

Mark, highlight, or record the ***best thought*** that stood out to you from this session.

WORKSHOPS

Abiding – the condition for Prayer:

Jesus said, “ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you” (John 15:7). However, there is a condition to this incredible promise: *abiding*. In this workshop, we’ll discuss what Jesus taught about abiding. If we don’t understand abiding, we won’t understand prayer.

Revival Starts with Prayer:

This workshop focuses on the crucial importance of prayer for initiating and sustaining revival in New England. Participants will receive an overview of revival, encouragement to begin praying for revival, and a time of actual intercession for revival.

Spiritual Praying:

The apostle Paul encourages us to “pray at all times in the Spirit,” but often our prayers never rise above our own natural thoughts or physical needs. This workshop will help us to understand and apply what Paul modeled about praying in the spiritual realm.

Saturday Evening

CONSISTENT IN PRAYER

“... devoted to prayer ... constant in prayer ... faithful in prayer ... keep on praying ... continuing steadfastly in prayer ... pray at all times ... persist in prayer ... continuing in prayer ... pray continually ... prayerful always ... persevering in prayer ... at all times given to prayer ... instant in prayer ...” (translations of Romans 12:12)

Discuss together what the following verses teach you about being consistent in prayer:

Nehemiah 1:4-11

Daniel 2:17-19a; 6:10; 9:1-6,15-22

Matthew 7:7-11

Luke 18:1-8

Ephesians 6:18

Colossians 4:2-4

Colossians 4:12

1 Thessalonians 5:16-19

“Prayer will never be easy. It is harder for me to pray now than ten years ago. I thought I would reach a place where I couldn’t keep from praying. Instead I can hardly keep from not praying. Why should it be easy? It is warfare.”

-Lorne Sanny

Together, discuss the barriers to consistent prayer which you have experienced. List related Scripture references for each barrier.

| Barrier | Scripture |
|----------------|------------------|
| | |

On your own, focus on **one barrier** that is particularly difficult for you to overcome. Determine **one step** you can take toward overcoming that barrier.

Pair up and share your plan and pray for each other.

Motivators for Prayer

Motivation: the reason or reasons one has for acting or behaving in a particular way; the general desire or willingness of someone to do something.

Together, discuss your motivations for praying.

| <i>Effective Motivators</i> | <i>Ineffective Motivators</i> |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | |

A Critical Step

“It is impossible to live the life of a disciple without definite times of secret prayer.”
-Oswald Chambers

On your own, write out your plan to have definite daily times of prayer. Include **what** you will do and **when** you will do it.

Discuss your plans with each other as a group. Determine how you will keep each other accountable to do what you have planned. **Pray together** for each other.

Best Thought

Mark, highlight, or record the **best thought** that stood out to you from this session.

A MORNING OF PRAYER

Preparation for our morning of prayer (read before breakfast)

From “How to Spend a Day in Prayer” by Lorne Sanny

The Bible gives us three time-guides for personal prayer. There is the command to “pray without ceasing” – the spirit of prayer – keeping so in tune with God that we can lift our hearts in request or praise anytime through the day.

There is also the practice of a quiet time or morning watch – seen in the life of David (Psalm 5:3), of Daniel (6:10), and of the Lord Jesus (Mark 1:35). This daily time specified for meditation in the Word of God and prayer is indispensable to the growing, healthy Christian.

Then there are examples in the Scripture of extended time given to prayer alone. Jesus spent whole nights praying. Nehemiah prayed “certain days” upon hearing of the plight of Jerusalem. Three times Moses spent 40 days and 40 nights alone with God.

I believe it was in these special times of prayer that God made known His ways and His plans to Moses (Psalm 103:7). He allowed Moses to look through a chink in the fence and gain special insights, while the rank-and-file Israelites saw only the acts of God as they unfolded day by day.

Once I remarked to Dawson Trotman, founder of The Navigators, “You impress me as one who feels he is a man of destiny, one destined to be used of God.” “I don't think that's the case,” he replied, “but I know this. God has given me some promises that I know He will fulfill.” During earlier years Daws spent countless protracted times alone with God, and out of these times the Navigator work grew – not by methods or principles, but by promises given to him from the Word.

In my own life one of the most refreshing and stabilizing factors, as well as the means for new direction or confirmation of the will of God, has been those extended times of prayer – in the neighborhood park in Seattle, on a hill behind the Navigator home in Southern California, or out in the Garden of the Gods here in Colorado Springs.

From “How to Spend a Day in Prayer” by Lorne Sanny (continued)

These special prayer times can become anchor points in your life, times when you “drive a stake” as a landmark and go on from there. Your daily quiet time is more effective as you pray into day-by-day reality some of the things the Lord speaks to your heart in protracted times of prayer. The quiet time in turn is the foundation for “praying without ceasing,” going through the day in communion with God.

Perhaps you haven’t spent a protracted time in prayer because you haven’t recognized the need for it. Or maybe you aren’t sure what you would do with a whole day on your hands just to pray.

Why take this time from a busy life? What is it for?

1. For extended fellowship with God ...
2. For a renewed perspective ...
3. For catching up on intercession ...
4. For prayerful consideration of own lives before God ...
5. For preparation – to be ready for what God will do ...

Two Hours in Prayer

After our time of worship this morning, we will spend two hours in personal prayer.

- Choose a partner
- Find a place
- 9:30-9:35 - Pray together for the time
- 9:35-10:35 - Pray alone
- 10:35-10:45 - Check-in with your partner
- 10:45-11:30 – Pray alone
- 11:30 – Join the large group for prayer

APPENDIX: Two Simple Tools

PRAYER

“Lord, teach us to pray ...”

What the Bible Teaches

The Lord’s invitation to pray: John 16:24

The Lord’s instruction on prayer: Matthew 6:9-13

- God’s honor
- God’s reign over His kingdom
- God’s provision
- God’s forgiveness
- God’s help to face temptation

Conditions for answered prayer:

- Jesus’ name - John 16:24
- God’s will – 1 John 5:14-15
- Remain in Jesus and His word – John 15:7
- Confess sin – Psalm 66:18
- Believe God – Matthew 21:21-22
- Don’t give up – Luke 18:1-8
- Pray according to the Spirit’s leading – Romans 8:26-27

A Simple Tool

A – Adoration (1 Chronicles 29:11-13)

C – Confession (Psalm 66:18)

T – Thanksgiving (1 Thessalonians 5:17-18)

S – Supplication (earnest, humble asking – Hebrews 5:7)

"The great people of the earth today are the people who pray. I do not mean those who talk about prayer; nor those who say they believe in prayer; nor those who can explain about prayer; but I mean those who take time and pray. They have not time. It must be taken from something else. This something else is important. Very important and pressing, but still less important and less pressing than prayer." - S.D. Gordon

PRAYING FOR THE LOST

God has given us the great privilege of partnering with Him to bring spiritually lost people into a relationship with Himself.

“We are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were entreating through us.” (2 Corinthians 5:17-20)

PRAY FOR GOD'S WORK IN THEM

Pray that God would ...

- Draw them to Jesus – John 6:44
- Take away their spiritual blindness – 2 Corinthians 4:3-4
- Overcome wrong thinking – 2 Corinthians 10:3-5
- Give them a heart to know God – Jeremiah 24:7
- Convict them of sin – John 16:8
- Grant them repentance – 2 Timothy 2:25-26
- Open their hearts to respond in faith – Acts 16:14

PRAY FOR GOD'S WORK IN ME

Pray that God would ...

- Give me compassion for spiritually lost people – Matthew 9:36
- Help me prepare to speak to people about Jesus – 1 Peter 3:15
- Give me boldness to speak – Ephesians 6:19
- Help me to speak clearly – Colossians 4:4
- Give me endurance to keep praying – Luke 18:1-8

PRAY FOR THE PROCESS OF TALKING ABOUT JESUS

Pray that God would give me opportunities (Colossians 4:2-6) ...

- To develop my relationships with _____
- To talk about God/Jesus
 - Identify with Jesus
 - Share my story
 - Ask about his/her spiritual journey
 - Share the good news of the Bible one piece at a time
 - Put the pieces of the gospel together
 - Ask if he/she is ready to believe in Jesus

New England Disciple-Makers Weekend

Our region is a mission field. Spiritually lost people are everywhere. We need more spiritually mature laborers who will live for Jesus in a redemptive way where they live and work. For many years, the Church in New England has been experiencing a disciple-making deficit:

“Churches today are full of people who haven’t been invited to become disciples. Being a Christian has come to mean going to church and being saved when you die. The ministry of the church is given over to ‘making the final cut’ and solving problems (marital problems, pain, and suffering), not to discipleship.” - Dallas Willard

WE ARE a network of disciple-makers living in New England who are training men and women to live intentionally, and personally, as disciple-makers of Jesus Christ wherever we are. We minister in a variety of churches throughout New England.

OUR VISION is to help create an identifiable culture of intentional, personal disciple-making throughout the Church of New England.

OUR PURPOSE is to train men and women to live intentionally, and personally, as disciple-makers of Jesus Christ so we will be models, advocates, and catalysts who reproduce other disciple-makers wherever God has placed us.

<http://disciplemakersnetwork.org>

“And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, ‘All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.’”

Matthew 28:18-20