

Aligning our Prayers ...Matthew 7:7-11

"But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you." ...Matthew 6:33 (ESV)

"You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You. Trust in the LORD forever, for the LORD GOD is an everlasting rock." ...Isaiah 26:3-4 (ESV)

1. Praying... Talking to God!

Scripture: **Matthew 7:7-11**

- Monolog or Dialog...
- Self-Awareness / Motivation... **James 4:1-10**

2. Knowing our Father's Heart... Lack of Self-Awareness

Scripture: **Luke 18:1-8, Luke 11:5-13**

- **Luke 18:1-8**: Persistence... Knowing He's the only hope and way!
- **Luke 11:5-13**: Trust... Knowing He's a good good Father!

3. Aligning your Prayers - Equipped to Change

Scripture: **James 1:5-8, Matthew 6:31-33**

- Trusting the Lord Completely... **James 1:5-8, Isaiah 26:3-4**
- Surrendered to God's will and goodness... **Matthew 6:31-33**

Group Discussion

1. What stood out to you in tonight's message and scripture passages? ...*be descriptive!*
2. What is your "Prayer Relationship" with the Lord Jesus like? How often do you talk with God...
...*describe both random time and planned time?*
3. If you really think about it... What is most often the motivation behind your reason for praying?
 - Is it to become more aligned with God's will and trusting Him?
 - Do you struggle with often praying for things you want, or hope to see come to pass?
4. READ *Philippians 4:6-7* together... What do you learn from these scriptures?
 - How can this look in your daily life?... *Talk about it.*
 - What effect do you think it would have on the way you deal with difficulties in life?
5. Is there anything from tonight's discussion that spoke to you personally? In what way(s) does it affect your life?
How will you directly and specifically apply it in your life today?

Take a few moments to share any Prayer Requests with the men in your Group. Write down any requests and commit to pray for one another throughout the week.

(It's great to know that other guys are praying for the important things in your life...and it's great to be praying for the important things in their lives!)

How do the **5 Principles for the Christian Man**, help equip you to apply this to your life?

Discuss your answer with your group...

- Prayer (*Relationship*)
- God's Word (*Knowledge and Understanding*)
- Worship (*Adoration*)
- Fellowship (*Encouragement and Accountability*)
- Service (*Caring for Others, Action to your Belief*)