

Let's Discuss...Prayer

PART 2_How Has Your Prayer Life Changed?



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Key Bible verses:

But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

Matthew 6:33 ESV

...your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

Psalms 23:4b NIV

*Our Father in heaven,
may your name be kept holy.
May your Kingdom come soon.
May your will be done on earth,
as it is in heaven.*

Give us today the food we need,

*and forgive us our sins,
as we have forgiven those who
sin against us.*

*And don't let us yield to
temptation,
but rescue us from the evil
one.*

Matthew 6:9-13 NLT

*He who did not spare His own
Son, but delivered Him over
for us all, how will He not also
with Him freely give us all
things?*

Romans 8:32 NASB

EPISODE SUMMARY

In this episode, we talk about how our prayer lives have grown over time. Niki & Tito share how they felt like they didn't know what they were doing when they first began to pray, which is common when starting off! Thankfully, God gives us different ways to help us on our journeys. Niki got around older Christians who she could learn from about prayer, and Tito found his prayer life grew when he decided to make his faith his own (and not just his parents').

We also talk about Jesus' example in the Lord's Prayer and how it can guide us as we learn to pray.

LET'S DISCUSS...

- Has the way you pray, or the way you think about it, changed over the years? What did it look like before and what does it look like now?
 - » When we pray, how can we develop an ability to hear from God?
 - » How can we develop the patience that it can take to allow God to make His thoughts clear to us over time, without rushing to assumptions about what we think or wish He is saying?
- Do you feel like you've chosen your faith on your own, without it being forced/pressured on you by anyone else?
- Niki talks about how shepherds marked their staff after they overcame an obstacle to remind them of what God has brought them through. Can you remember a time when you prayed, and felt like you got an answer? Or a sense of peace, reminder of something helpful, etc...? These could be your markers for your own prayer journey!
- Grace says that when she prays, she believes that whatever she has asked for is already "done". Many Christians agree with this idea based on verses such as Mark 11:24.

Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.

Mark 11:24 NIV

- » Do you agree with Grace? Why or why not?
- » How do we understand Mark 11:24, considering that sometimes our prayers are not answered in the ways we thought they would be?
- Greg talks about the importance of gratitude. How can we be more thankful in our everyday conversations with God? How could this help us?
- The Lord's Prayer has helped Christians learn how to pray for a couple millennia now! Has this prayer shaped your own personal prayer life? Are there prayers that help you connect with God?

LET'S PRAY...

*Our Father in heaven,
may your name be kept holy.
May your Kingdom come soon.
May your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.*

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- Pray through the Lord's Prayer. This ancient prayer given to us by Jesus, connects the Holy Spirit within us with our Father in Heaven. Take your time with each sentence and go through it a second time, adding your own feelings about God and what you want to tell Him.

LET'S GO DEEPER...

- "Staffs in the Bible" via Eternal Wall of Answered Prayer [article]
- The Prayer Course by 24/7 Prayer [online course]

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