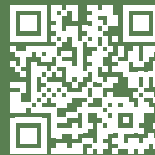


# Let's Discuss...Prayer

## PART 5 Praying in the Spirit



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### Scriptures mentioned:

*Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.*  
Matthew 11:28-30 NIV

*The Lord your God is going ahead of you. He will fight for you, just as you saw Him do in Egypt.*  
Deuteronomy 1:30 NLT

*The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.*  
James 5:16b NKJV

*When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.*  
Acts 2:1-4 NIV

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### Episode Summary

In this episode, we talk about the importance of prayer in our growing relationship with God, just as conversation is a necessary part to any meaningful relationship. Tito mentions how there are different types of prayer. In an example of what he calls a “business prayer”, he shares how two men went to visit a friend in the hospital and without even thinking about it took off their jackets as they went to work in the spiritual realm to pray for healing. We also chat about the gift of speaking in tongues and how it can strengthen and support our prayer lives.

### Let's Discuss...

- Timothy Keller in his book *Prayer: Experiencing Awe and Intimacy with God* wrote, “To fail to pray, then, is not to merely break some religious rule—it is a failure to treat God as God.”
  - » Greg posed the question, “Is a prayerless Christian a powerless Christian?” and Tito reminds us that “Seven days without prayer makes one weak!” How would you respond to these thoughts? What has been your experience, or what have you witnessed in others?
- Tito said, “There’s sometimes, you pray, and there’s sometimes where, man, you gotta take your jacket off. This is a business prayer!” Love this! It’s reminiscent of the early church’s “fervent prayers” for Peter when he was arrested in Acts 12:5.
  - » Have you experienced these different types of prayers? What distinguishes your “business prayers” from some of your other everyday types of prayer?

As a church, we believe the spiritual gift of **speaking in tongues** (also referred to as praying in the Spirit) is available to all believers. Throughout 1 Corinthians, Paul encourages the believers about the importance and blessing of the spiritual gifts, with speaking in tongues included. It’s a language expressed by the Holy Spirit through us, and an intimate way in which we can communicate with God. The Spirit can communicate through us in a way that we may not be able to articulate with our own words.

*All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.*  
Acts 2:1-4 NIV

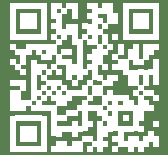
*When Paul placed his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied.*  
Acts 19:6 NIV

*For anyone who speaks in a tongue does not speak to people but to God. Indeed, no one understands them; they utter mysteries by the Spirit. But the one who prophesies speaks to people for their strengthening, encouraging and comfort. Anyone who speaks in a tongue edifies themselves, but the one who prophesies edifies the church.*  
1 Corinthians 14:2-4 NIV

- Have you received the gift of speaking in tongues? Are you comfortable with it, or as Jemima mentioned, do you find it unfamiliar and a bit scary or strange?
- Grace closes **Part 5** by saying, “It gets me so excited because we see how far we’ve come already in our faith and our prayer lives and our walk with God, and there’s so much more! We don’t even know the tip of the iceberg of what God can do through and in us.”
  - » Does this sentiment resonate with you? How would you elaborate on it?

# Let's Discuss...Prayer

## PART 5 Praying in the Spirit



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### Scriptures mentioned:

Paul talks more about speaking in tongues...  
1 Corinthians 12 & 14

*Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.*  
Romans 8:26 ESV

*But you, dear friends, by building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit...*  
Jude 1:20 NIV

*Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.*  
Matthew 7:7 NIV

### Let's Pray...

*Are you weary, carrying a heavy burden? Come to me. I will refresh your life, for I am your oasis...*

Matthew 11:28 TPT

- Thank God that He is our oasis, our ever-present source of help and refreshment. As we draw near to Him, He replenishes our souls, restores our hearts, and renews our minds. Ask God to develop a hunger in you to seek His Presence in prayer, a safe place where you can daily cast your cares on Him and draw strength.

If you'd like to experience the gift of speaking in tongues, ask the Holy Spirit to open your heart and mind to receive it.

*"Jesus thank you for sending your spirit to dwell in me. I surrender my heart and give you control to have your way in me. Thank you that your Holy Spirit knows me inside and out and dwells within me. I ask for the gift of speaking in tongues, and the gift of a language of prayer that only You can understand. In Jesus' name, Amen."*

### Let's Go Deeper...

- **"Yes, Justin Welby speaks in tongues. So do half a billion other Christians"** by Justin Brierley [article & videos]
  - » Note: the 2 videos embedded in this article are great too!
- **The Empowering Presence: Week Eight: Tongues** by John Mark Comer at Garden Church [video]
- **Keep in Step with the Spirit** by J.I. Packer [book]
- **21 Days of Prayer** by Church of the Highlands [online resource]