

Life Group Discussion Guide
“The Power of Consistent Prayer”
Sunday, May 14, 2017

- What was the fastest answer to prayer you received from God?
- What is one thing you’ve been praying about for years?
- When have you been most convinced that God cares about your prayers? When have you most doubted that?
- The Bible gives us lots of examples of people who prayed and how they prayed. What biblical example of prayer has been the most helpful in your prayer life?

Read 1 Samuel 1

- What do we know about Hannah from this passage?
- How can we respond to discouragement when it affects our desire to pray?
- What are reasons we might find it difficult to pray? What are some solutions?

If the doctor said you have a fatal condition, and unless you take this medicine every night from 11:00 to 11:15, and swallow these pills, you will be dead by morning. If that was the case, she said, you would never miss. You would never say, I was too tired, or, I didn’t get to it, or, I was watching a movie, and I didn’t leave time. You never would do that. And so when people ask: How am I going to get to prayer? How am I going to deal with [distractions]? I say, maybe you don’t believe you need prayer. Tim Keller, *Prayer: Experiencing Awe and Intimacy with God*

- Do you believe you need prayer? How do you build prayer into your life?

1 John 5:14-15 – “This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him.”

- Why is prayer not an attempt to convince God of our needs?
- How long should we continue to pray about the same issue?
- How does prayer develop our relationship with God?

1. **God wants us to pray** – Hebrews 4:16 says, “Let us then approach God’s throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.”

2. **Consistent prayer teaches us to depend on God.**

3. **Persistence in prayer is for our benefit, not God’s.**

4. **God uses prayer to cleanse our desires.**