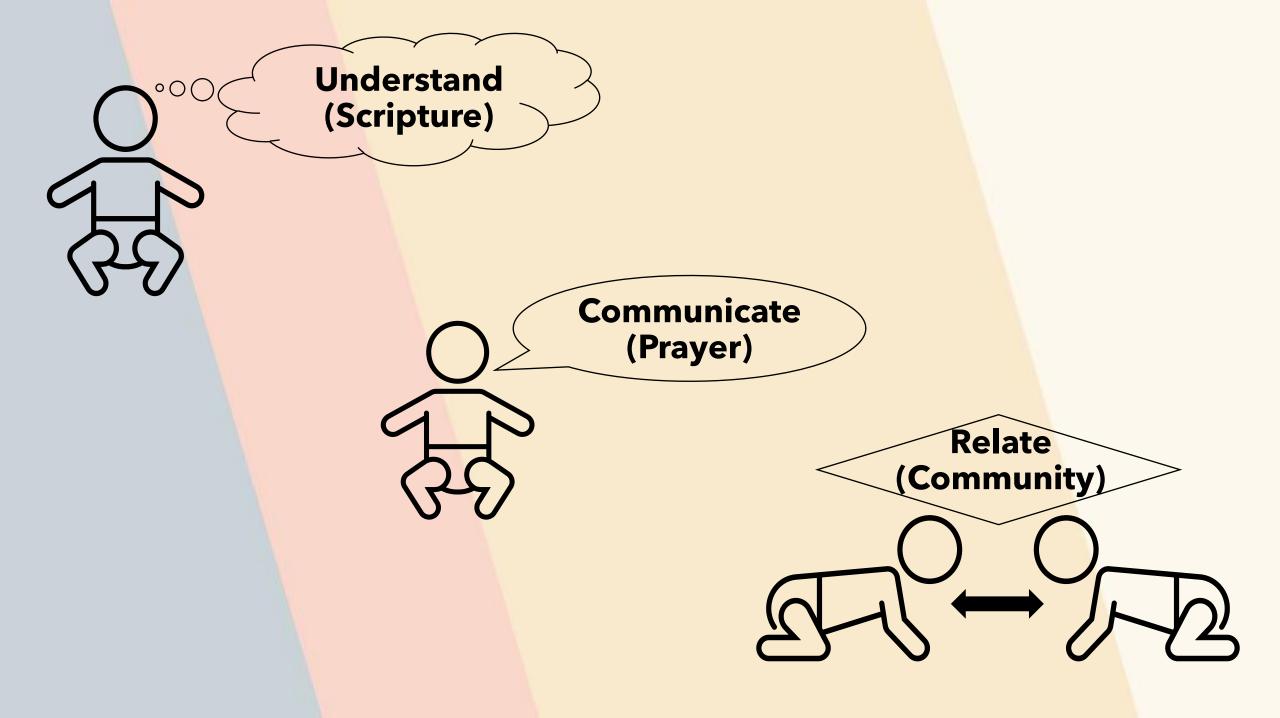
WHAT DO CHRISTIANS DO?

# Email Q&A Questions to anthony@severn.cc



# 1. What is prayer? Christian

#### **Matthew 6:5-15**

(5) "And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. (6) But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. (7) "And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words. (8) Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. (9) Pray then like this: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. (10) Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. (11) Give us this day our daily bread, (12) and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. (13) And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. (14) For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, (15) but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

#### Definition

# Prayer is a conversation between a child and their Father.

# **Ephesians 2:18**

For through [Jesus] we both have access in one Spirit to the Father.

### John 16:23-27

(23) In that day you will ask nothing of me. Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father in my name, he will give it to you. (24) Until now you have asked nothing in my name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full....(27) for the Father himself loves you, because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God.

#### Romans 8:14-16

(14) For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. (15) For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" (16) The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God

# 2. Why should I pray?

# Why should I pray?

# To deepen your relationship of love with God.

#### Matthew 6:5-6

(5) "And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. (6) But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you."

# 3. How do I pray (well)?

#### ASSESSING YOUR PRAYER LIFE

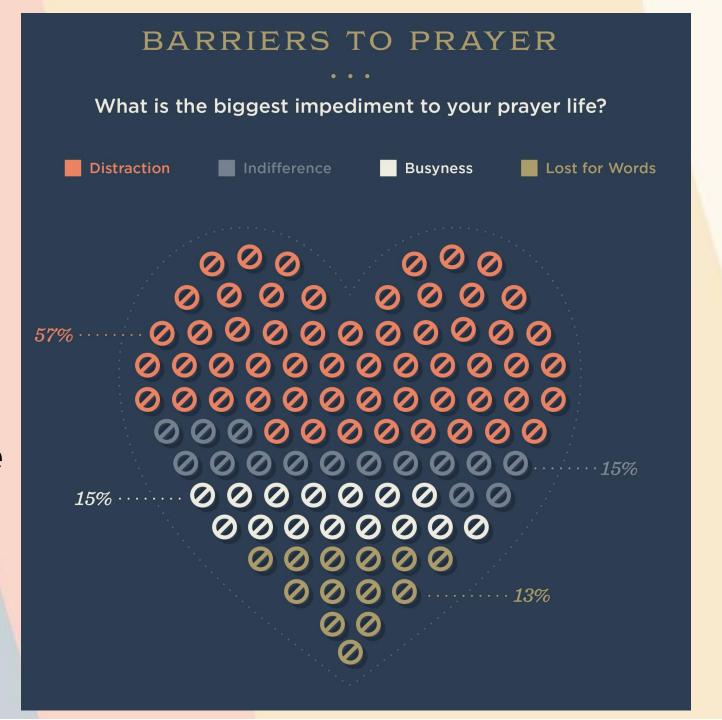
On a scale of 1-10, how would you rate your prayer life?

= 1% of respondents



#### **Distraction**

Indifference



#### **Busyness**

# Lost for Words

# Preparation

#### Matthew 6:6

But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret...

# Preparation

- ✓ Distraction free location
- **√ Timing**

#### Matthew 6:11

## Give us this day our daily bread

# Preparation

- **✓ Distraction free location**
- **√ Timing:** 
  - > Daily
  - > Start with 20 minutes
  - Choose the best time of day for YOU
- **✓** Resources:
  - > Bible!
  - Songs of Jesus Devotion Book

The NEW YORK TIMES Bestselling Author

# TIMOTHY KELLER

with KATHY KELLER



A Year of Daily Devotions in the Psalms



The Songs of **JESUS** 

# Vocabulary

Combine Bible reading with prayer!

- Remember how to "Ponder" from our previous class!
  - o God, Gospel, Me

#### Grammar

Upward Inward Outward Upward

# Grammar: 1) Upward

#### Matthew 6:9-10 & 11-13

(9) Pray then like this: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. (10) Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

(11) Give us this day our daily bread, (12) and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. (13) And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

# Grammar: 1) Upward

- Focus on God:
  - Honor him for who he is through praise & gratitude
  - Honor his rule and will through seeking & submission

## Grammar: 2) Inward

Both physical and spiritual needs

#### Matthew 6:11 & 12-13

(11) Give us this day our daily bread

(12) and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. (13) And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

## Grammar: 3) Outward

- · Who?
  - People both inside and outside the family of Christ.
- · How?
  - Prayer Focus Schedule

Monday: Family & Friends

Tuesday: Church Leaders

<u>Wednesday</u>: Church Family

Thursday: Community, Nation, World

# Grammar: 4) Upward

#### Matthew 6:13

(13) And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. [For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.]

# Grammar: 4) Upward

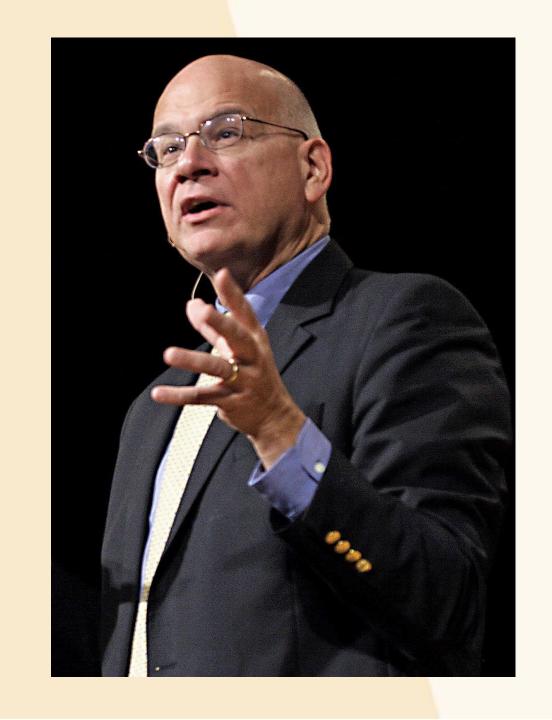
Return to focus on, praise, and submit to God

#### *Immersion*

- 1. Do it OFTEN
  - Constantly & Consistently

"The changes took some time to bear fruit, but after sustaining these practices for about two years, I began to have some breakthroughs...The result was a spiritual liveliness and strength that this Christian minister, for all my preaching, had not had before."

> Pastor Timothy Keller in Prayer



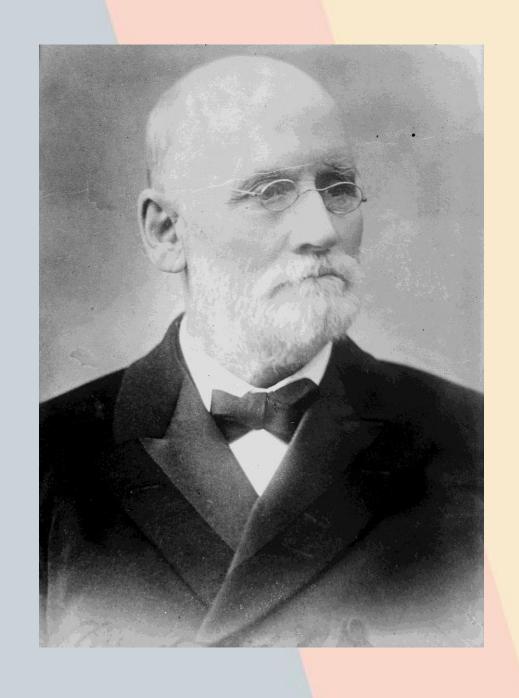
#### **Immersion**

- 1. Do it OFTEN
  - Constantly & Consistently

- 2. Do it WITH OTHERS
  - **Community**

#### In Jesus' Name...

• An <u>attitude</u> that recognizes our <u>access</u> and <u>authority</u> and <u>accepts</u> God's will.



"We must give up any thought that we have any claims upon God...But Jesus Christ has great claims on God, and we should go to God in our prayers not on the ground of any goodness in ourselves, but on the ground of Jesus Christ's claims."

- Pastor R.A. Torrey

# Modeling

### Matthew 6:9-13

GOD: So far above me. Perfect and holy. But also my Father who loves me.

GOSPEL: The only reason I can approach God in prayer is b/c Jesus died and rose again for my sins.

ME: I don't give prayer the time and effort it deserves b/c I have a low view of it. I need to change that!

Monday: Family & Friends

Tuesday: Church Leaders

<u>Wednesday</u>: Church Family

Thursday: Community, Nation, World