

Sister Talk: Resuscitate Your Faith
Going Deeper — Week 6: Devoted to Prayer

Memory Verse:

Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.

Colossians 4:2 NIV

Gratitude: There is no better way to remember who you are... whose you are than to give thanks. Write down things you are thankful for this week.

This Week's Spiritual Discipline

Throughout our faith journeys we have practiced a variety of spiritual disciplines. Spiritual disciplines are habits or activities that help us grow in faith. Each week we will make a suggestion for you to try.

Silence

We hope you continue to practice the rhythm of prayer throughout your day: first thoughts, mid-morning, mid-day, take five, and final thoughts. But this week we want to introduce a new discipline: Silence.

Learning to listen to the Holy Spirit is an important aspect of devoting our lives to prayer. There is much noise in our worlds and He is not pushy. He speaks with a quiet still voice.

Devote thirty minutes this week to a time of silence. Listening for what He has to say to you. Find a quiet place, quiet your heart before Him, and listen. (Quieting your heart may be more difficult than finding a quiet place.)

Speak Lord, your servant is listening.

Devoted to Prayer

Prayer is precious intentional time spent with God... becoming familiar with who He is and His presence...

<p><i>Day 1</i></p> <p>Write this week's memory verse five times.</p> <p>Look up the definition of devote.</p> <p>God calls us to be devoted to prayer.</p> <p>Consider your prayer life. Does the definition of <i>devote</i> reflect how you pray? Which parts of the definition would you like to be true of your prayer life?</p> <p>What additional aspects of being devoted to prayer are found in the memory verse?</p> <p>What are you currently devoted to?</p> <p>What intentional steps can you take this week to change your prayer life? Write them down and commit to make the change.</p>	<p><i>Day 4</i></p> <p>Read Matthew 6:5-8</p> <p>List the instructions Jesus gives in His teaching on prayer.</p> <p>Being devoted to prayer does not mean being a show-off when it comes to prayer. It does not mean being wordy. It is time devoted to our Father in heaven. Sharing our hearts with Him in secret like we would with a trusted parent.</p> <p>Read Matthew 6:8 again.</p> <p>What does it mean to you that Father God already knows what you need?</p> <p>Does this encourage you to pray? Or discourage you?</p>
<p><i>Day 2</i></p> <p>Read John 10:27</p> <p>We learn to recognize Jesus's voice through God's Word - the Bible - listening to His Spirit with an obedient heart.</p> <p>Do you know His voice when you hear it?</p> <p>Let's practice. For the next 24 hours commit to listening to Him and do what He puts on your heart. Tell Him through prayer you are prepared to hear Him.</p> <p>Read 1John 4:1-6</p> <p>As Believers there are three major voices speaking into our lives: our own, the enemy, and the Holy Spirit. Ask Him to help you discern His voice from all the others.</p>	<p><i>Day 5</i></p> <p>Read Luke 11:1-4</p> <p>What had Jesus been doing before one of the disciples asked Him to teach them to pray?</p> <p>What do you think the disciple saw in Jesus while He prayed to cause him to ask Jesus to teach them to pray?</p> <p>Do you pray according to Jesus's teaching regularly?</p> <p>Some churches include the Lord's Prayer as part of their weekly worship. When we say rote prayers on a regular basis they can lose their power and meaning.</p> <p>Today take Jesus's teaching and make it personal. Meditate on the meaning of each phrase. Look up words you don't know the meaning of. Refer to Matthew 6:9-13 for another version of the Lord's prayer to help your understanding.</p>
<p><i>Day 3</i></p> <p>Read Luke 18:1-8</p> <p>The widow was persistent in returning over and over to the unrighteous judge. She would not give up hope of being heard. Finally she was.</p> <p>Do you have a prayer you've given up on?</p> <p>What is Jesus telling you to do with your prayer?</p> <p>God calls us to be persistent in prayer. It is an act of faith which pleases God.</p> <p>How does persistent prayer reflect faith in Him?</p> <p>What does it say about our faith when we are not persistent in prayer?</p>	<p><i>Want to learn more?</i></p> <p>Sister Talk: Going Deeper is an extension of the study our previous study. You can find more on Believing God Exists by going to:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SisterTalkFaith.wordpress.com</p> <p>Scroll to the bottom and search Week 2/Day 1 Pray to review more information on Devoted to Prayer.</p> <p>Sign up to receive blog posts by e-mail and each day's lesson will come straight to your inbox.</p> <p>Follow us on Instagram for encouragement along the journey at sistertalkfaith.</p>