

MAKING PRAYER MATTER

I. THE PREMISE OF PRAYER

A FOLLOWER OF JESUS LIVES **BY FAITH**

“Don’t worry about anything; instead pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done.”

Philippians 4:6 (NLT)

II. THE BENEFITS OF PRAYER

1. IT BRINGS **GOD** INTO THE PICTURE

2. IT GENERATES **INTIMACY** WITH GOD

“. . . the LORD our God comes near when we pray to him.”

Deuteronomy 4:7 (NCV)

3. IT ALIGNS **YOU** WITH GOD

“Every morning I lay out the pieces of my life on your altar.”

Psalms 5:3 (TM)

III. THE PRACTICE OF PRAYER

1. PRAY **PRIVATELY**

“But when you pray, go away by yourself, shut the door behind you, and pray to your Father secretly.”

Matthew 6:6 (NLT)

2. PRAY **PUBLICLY**

*“They spent their time learning the apostles’ teaching, sharing, breaking bread, and **praying together**.”*

Acts 2:42 (NCV)

3. PRAY **FREQUENTLY**

*“Be joyful always; **pray continually**; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”*

I Thessalonians 5:16-18 (NIV)

4. PRAY **SUPERNATURALLY**

*“And in the same way—by our faith—the Holy Spirit help us with our daily problems and in our praying. For we don’t even know what we should pray for nor how to pray as we should, but **the Holy Spirit prays for us** with such feeling that it cannot be expressed in words.”*

Romans 8:26 (LB)

5. PRAY **INCLUSIVELY**

Praise

Evaluate

Thank

Ask

Listen