

A decorative border in a brownish-gold color surrounds the page. It features a repeating pattern of roses on stems with leaves, interspersed with scrollwork and a central scroll at the bottom. The border is composed of several layers: an outer line of small ovals, a middle line of larger roses and leaves, and an inner line of scrollwork.

LORD,
TEACH
US TO
PRAY

Week One

WEEK ONE

“LORD, TEACH US TO PRAY” LUKE 11:1B

Apprenticing With Jesus

“Prayer opens us to the heart of God. He is the Equipper for all whom He calls.”

CHARLES STANLEY



Watch this week's video at: www.PrayingLikeJesus.com/week-1

KEY LEARNINGS:

1. Prayer is simply _____ to God and _____ to Him.
2. How we _____ God affects how we will _____ to Him.
3. God wants you to be _____ with Him. (*Matthew 6:5*)
4. The Father wants to have a _____ relationship with you. (*Matthew 6:6*)
5. Jesus is our model for _____ with God. (*John 5:19-20a*)
6. The Lord's Prayer gives us a _____ to follow for _____ with God. (*Matthew 6:9*)

“And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

MATTHEW 28:20B

"God does nothing but in answer to prayer."
JOHN WESLEY

NOTES

DAY 1: GETTING CLOSER

They said to each other, “Didn’t our hearts burn within us as He talked with us on the road and explained the Scriptures to us?” LUKE 24:32

It was a very cold winter in the art studio last year. In the midst of those cold harsh months, my gas heater stopped working. As I painted in a full winter coat, technicians came to uncover the problem of no heat. It was a mystery at first. The propane line was clear, electronics were all in order, and the igniter was firing, yet still ... no flame. The colder the temperature dropped in my studio, the more difficult it was for the heater to start. After much trial and error, the cause of the problem was narrowed down to two small prongs on the heater spark plug. These tiny pieces of metal are positioned very close to each other so that a spark can be created between them, igniting a flame in the presence of gas. But years of prolonged use had worn down the prongs and created a subtle distance between them. As a result, the spark plug was no longer able to consistently produce a flame.

The technician did one small thing to address the problem, which had a dramatic impact on the function of the heater. He simply bent the two prongs closer together. At once, the spark ignited, producing a flame and heating the room. The simple truth was this; they just needed to get closer to one another.

It reminds me of the time when Jesus appeared to two of His disciples as they walked to Emmaus. He drew close to them, teaching them the Scriptures. As a result, their hearts burned within them. Think of it this way. You and Jesus are a bit like those two metal prongs bent toward each other, and the Holy Spirit is the flame that ignites within your heart, causing you to burn with passion for Him. You just need to get closer! This is the pivotal role of prayer in our spiritual journey.

“My secret is a very simple one: I pray,” wrote Mother Teresa of Calcutta, a modern master of the skill.

“Prayer is simply talking to God.

He speaks to us: we listen.

We speak to Him: He listens.

A two-way process:

Speaking and listening.”

PHILIP YANCEY (“Prayer,” p. 65)

This wonderful quote from Philip Yancey is so simple yet profound. In prayer, Jesus has provided a way for us to get closer to Him so that our hearts might be warmed as our fellowship with Him grows.

DAILY JOURNAL EXERCISE

As you embark on this journey of learning to pray, may any distance that remains between you and Jesus be removed in the coming weeks as you learn the art of speaking and listening to Him, and open your heart to His great love for you.

How would you describe your relationship with God?

Is there a small or a large distance in your heart between you and Jesus?

Is your heart toward God more cold, lukewarm or hot?

Would you like to be closer to Jesus?

Try talking to God about this, and ask Jesus to remove the space between you and Him in the coming weeks. Invite His Spirit to come and warm your heart as you get to know Him better.
