

THE 4 LEVELS OF PRAYER

Christian Life Center Institute | www.discipleshipdevelopment.org | 951-689-6785

PRAYER LEVEL 2

In Matthew 6:5-15 Jesus gives both the reason for prayer and the pattern for prayer. This is not just a prayer to repeat, but a framework, a set of “doorways” into every area of human need. Scan the code and read/study the notes on the prayer pattern... Matthew 6:9 *“This, then, is how you should pray:...”*



Prayer Level 1 Review

Matthew 6:25-34 *...seek first His Kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well...* (Matthew 6:11)

1. Learning to depend on God through personal prayer. *This is the beginning point... prayer for everyday personal needs and the needs of our family and friends.*
2. **Prayer at this level is personal and practical.** It’s where we bring our needs, concerns, and desires before the Lord and begin to trust Him as our Source. Here we begin to include our family, friends, and everyday relationships. We begin to care not just about our own needs, but about what others are going through.
3. **In the following levels,** we start seeing reality through His eyes and feeling His heart. A fire rises in us as we cry out for a Church that is not a shallow, powerless form of religion. Repentance becomes real. It’s not casual anymore... We weep for our own sin and stand in the gap for others, carrying His heart for a move of the Spirit in the church who will then be compelled to reach our world. The QR code directs you to David Wilkerson’s sermon on Anguish.



PRAYER *Level Two*

1 Timothy 2:1-2 *I (Paul) urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people—for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.*

Jeremiah 29:7 *...seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the LORD for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper.*

1. **At this level, prayer begins to shift from praying about our own needs to carrying the needs of others before God.**
 - Instead of just asking for personal needs, we start focusing on God’s will and what He wants to do *in other people and situations around us*. As 1 Timothy 2 tells us, we begin to intentionally pray for others, and we align our prayers with God’s kingdom and His purpose (Matthew 6:10). This is where we start partnering with God’s heart, stepping into a type of intercession, and letting our prayers become others-focused rather than self-centered. How and where do we begin...?

2. **The Biblical principle of Identificational Intercession.**
 - Identificational intercession is prayer in which a person stands before God on behalf of others by identifying with their sins and needs—confessing as if they were their own and seeking God’s mercy and restoration. (Daniel 9:3–19; Nehemiah 1:4–7; Moses in Exodus 32:30–32; Ezra 9:5–7...)

3. **Daniel’s example of Identificational intercession for His Nation.**
 - In Daniel 9:2, Daniel is reading the writings of Jeremiah and realizes that the seventy years of Jerusalem’s desolation (2 Kings 25:11), spoken of in Jeremiah 25:11–12 and 29:10, are coming to an end! But instead of just sitting back and waiting for God to act, Daniel *leans in*. He begins to pray, fast, and repent, identifying himself with the sins of his people and crying out for God’s mercy and restoration of Israel! When God reveals His promises, it’s not an invitation to be passive, it’s a call to pray and to partner with Him in until what He has spoken comes to pass.
 - This is the captivity most prophets like Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and Daniel spoke about, and it lasted about 70 years before the return under Cyrus the Great.
 - Daniel 9:4–5 *I prayed to the LORD my God and confessed: LORD, the great and awesome God, who keeps his covenant of love with those who love him and keep his commandments, **we** have sinned and done wrong. **We** have been wicked and have rebelled; **we** have turned away from your commands and laws.*
 - Daniel 9:19 *LORD, listen! LORD, forgive! LORD, hear and act! For your sake, my God, do not delay, because your city and your people bear your Name.*
 - Daniel Prayed for **national repentance**, not just personal needs. **Key: he identified with the sins of the people even though he himself did not have personal involvement.**
 - Daniel teaches us to carry the spiritual condition of our nation before God. We pray *FOR the leaders*. This takes away the anger when we do not agree with our leaders.

4. **Moses also shows us what it means to stand in the gap for others.**
 - In Exodus 32, when Israel was facing God’s judgment for creating and worshipping the golden calf, he stepped in and prayed, *Please forgive their sin—but if not, then*

blot me out... (32:32). He was willing to *sacrifice himself for the sake of the people*. Scripture says that the LORD changed His mind and didn't bring the disaster (14)!

- Moses teaches us that standing in the gap between God and people isn't passive, it's bold, costly, and it can literally change outcomes!!!

5. **Ways we pray and intercede** for our community and nation, as well as the Church.

- **Spiritual Mapping diagnoses obstacles to revival in a community or area.**

Through fervent prayer and research, we can measure the landscape of the spiritual dimension. What has happened in the past? How has that affected and shaped the paradigm and behavior of the people living there?

Understanding how a community responds to God is key to Spiritual Mapping. A biblical example is the story of the twelve spies in Numbers 13. After Israel's deliverance from Egypt, they arrived at Kadesh Barnea, the southern entrance into Canaan, God's Promised Land.

God instructed Moses to send twelve spies to explore the land. This is about as close as Scripture gets to a "checklist" for spiritual mapping: Go to a specific location, observe the land and its people, both physically and spiritually, and bring back something from the land.



The outcome also shows how an entire community can be shaped by the perspective and decisions of a few. [Scan the code for more information on Spiritual Mapping.](#)

- **Prayer walking**, prayer outside the walls (POTW) and prayer journeys are ways we can sense the spiritual climate outside of the safety of the church walls. It is here we see God's heart for the world more clearly. [Scan the code to learn more about prayer walking.](#)



- **Prophetic Intercession** is praying under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, with insight into God's will, purposes, and sometimes hidden situations, so that prayers are aligned with God's agenda. Examples include Abraham as he was interceding for Lot in Sodom (Genesis 18), Daniel (Daniel 9), Elijah (1 Kings 18), Rees Howells, an intercessor during the second World War.

Homework: Do some research (Google, Chat, books, etc.) on the history of Riverside (or the city where you live). What did you find out about the spiritual climate of its history?

Next week: Prayer Level 3 | *God's heart for the nations.*

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. . .
Ephesians 6:18