



# encounter.

a step-by-step guide through Scripture

## **disciple:**

// someone who follows Jesus and leads others to do the same.

Studying God's Word is one of the best ways to grow your relationship with God, be tuned to the Holy Spirit, and get to know Jesus intimately. John 1 tells us that the Word is God, the writer of Psalms tells us it will light our path, and Jesus tells us in John 8 if we abide in His Word, we are truly His disciples.

This tool is just one of the many ways to study the Bible and dive deeper into the passages we will be studying each weekend together. Our hope is that you begin to deeply understand the scripture we will be unpacking and allow God to speak to your heart before you even walk through the doors on Sunday.

This tool is designed to help guide you as you seek to understand the context of each verse, what it meant to its original audience, and what it means to us today.

There are a few ways you can utilize this PDF.

- 01** Print the PDF.  
-or-
- 02** Download the PDF, open in a notes app (GoodNotes, Notability, etc), fill it out digitally.  
-or-
- 03** Use the PDF to transcribe into a notebook or journal.

### **5 Marks of a Disciple**

- Know Jesus Intimately
- Follow the Holy Spirit Relentlessly
- Obey God's Word Completely
- Love His Church Wholeheartedly
- Seek the Lost Intentionally



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Week of March 10<sup>th</sup> // Conversation March 17<sup>th</sup>  
**Love His Church - Prayer**

This week's topic in our current sermon series, Love His Church, is prayer. Prayer is communion with the Lord—worshipping Him, loving Him, and talking with Him. Prayer is simple one on one communication with God in Heaven and is a means of intimacy with Him. Prayer brings direction, discernment, and often times the peace that passes understanding.

All who are genuine followers of the Lord Jesus Christ are members of the body of Christ -- the church. God did not design us to be spiritual hermits -- we are to meet together. One key reason is so that we can build up and encourage each other in our walk with the Lord. One very important way we encourage and build up fellow believers is to pray for one another.

## pray.

The apostles created the early church, and we can use some of it as a model for our church today. "Devote yourselves to prayer with an alert mind and thankful heart." Colossians 4:2. As we pray for fellow believers, let's pray that they would abound more and more in Biblical love.

## observe.

Marking key words in passages of Scripture helps to draw your attention to the main ideas/themes. It causes you to slow down and absorb what you're reading.

**01** Mark any reference to God with a triangle. Don't forget to mark His other names.

**02** Mark any reference to prayer or pray with a circle.

### **Acts 2:42-47 (NLT)**

<sup>42</sup> All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord's Supper), and to prayer. <sup>43</sup> A deep sense of awe came over them all, and the apostles performed many miraculous signs and wonders. <sup>44</sup> And all the believers met together in one place and shared everything they had. <sup>45</sup> They sold their property and possessions and shared the money with those in need. <sup>46</sup> They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity— <sup>47</sup> all the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people. And each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved.

### **Ephesians 3:14-17 (NLT)**

<sup>14</sup> When I think of all this, I fall to my knees and pray to the Father, <sup>15</sup> the Creator of everything in heaven and on earth. <sup>16</sup> I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources he will empower you with inner strength through his Spirit. <sup>17</sup> Then Christ will make his home in your hearts as you trust in him. Your roots will grow down into God's love and keep you strong.

### **Romans 12:9-12 (NLT)**

<sup>9</sup> Don't just pretend to love others. Really love them. Hate what is wrong. Hold tightly to what is good.<sup>10</sup> Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honoring each other.<sup>11</sup> Never be lazy, but work hard and serve the Lord enthusiastically. <sup>12</sup> Rejoice in our confident hope. Be patient in trouble, and keep on praying.

### **James 5:13-16 (NLT)**

<sup>13</sup> Are any of you suffering hardships? You should pray. Are any of you happy? You should sing praises. <sup>14</sup> Are any of you sick? You should call for the elders of the church to come and pray over you, anointing you with oil in the name of the Lord. <sup>15</sup> Such a prayer offered in faith will heal the sick, and the Lord will make you well. And if you have committed any sins, you will be forgiven. <sup>16</sup> Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results.

# interpret.

**01** Why was it important for believers in the early church to be taught how to pray?

**02** Who are we to turn to for prayer when we are sick?

**03** Who are we to confess our sins to so we can be prayed for?

# apply.

**01** Reflect on how you can model the apostles as they helped new believers learn to pray?

**02** Do you have a daily time set aside for your prayer time with the Lord? Why or why not?

**03** Think about when it's easier to pray - during hard times or good times? Why do you think that is?

# bring it together.

They devoted themselves to prayer because they had devoted themselves to the Lord Jesus. They wanted to reflect Him, and they desired to serve Him.

They persevered in prayer because they knew that God heard them. They knew that God's sovereign will had been accomplished at the Cross. Their prayer, like Peter's preaching, had been transformed by their understanding of the Cross.

As part of a family of believers we pray for the needs and spiritual well-being of our whole family of believers. We pray that our brothers and sisters in the Lord will revere God's name; we pray that they will let God reign in their lives, and we pray that they will do the will of God. We also pray that their daily needs will be supplied. We pray that they will repent of sin and that they will live holy lives.

It is clear from the Word of God that we, as His followers, are to regularly pray for our fellow believers.

## connect.

We are available to answer any questions you might have.

 [info@gtwy.church](mailto:info@gtwy.church)

We believe life is better in circles. Groups are a great place to grow in your relationship with other believers and find encouragement and accountability as you grow in your relationship with God.

 [www.gtwy.church/groups](http://www.gtwy.church/groups)

[we value your input. click or scan here to provide feedback](#)

