# DISCIPLESHIP TODAY

A Discipleship Center Publication – May 2016

## THIS MONTH'S FOCUS – Prayer

#### They Said It:

"The point of asking is that you may get to know God better." - Oswald Chambers

"When God is about to give His people the expected good, He pours out a Spirit of prayer, and it is a good sign that He is coming towards them in mercy." - Matthew Henry

"Prayer is reaching out and after the unseen; fasting, letting go of all that is seen and temporal. Fasting helps express, deepens, confirms the resolution that we are ready to sacrifice anything, even ourselves, to attain what we seek for the Kingdom of God." - Andrew Murray



"If we are too busy to pray, we are too busy to have power. We have a great deal of activity, but we accomplish little." – R.A. Torrey – R.A. Torrey

"It is not enough for the believer to begin to pray correctly; nor is it enough to continue for a time to pray. We must patiently, believingly continue in prayer until we obtain an answer.

– George Mueller

#### Readings from the Scriptures:

Day 1 – Matthew 6:9-15 Day 2 – Philippians 4:6-7 Day 3 – Ephesians 6:18 Day 4 – I Timothy 2:1-2

Day 5 - Psalm 18:6 Day 6 – Ephesians 3:14-21 Day 7 – I John 5:14-15

#### Try this Memory Verse:

"If you remain in Me and My words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you." (John 15:7)

#### **Resource Recommendations:**

For some helpful articles that deal with prayer, go to:

- www.navigators.org/tools/prayerresources
- www.focusonthefamily.com (type in "prayer" in the search box on the home page, then hit "enter" on your keyboard) The Discipleship Center has a workshop on "Prayer for Others."

Contact us if we may present it to your church or small group.

#### Your Input Counts!

If you could name one book that has been influential on your prayer life, what would it be? Send us a suggestion and we will put it in our next newsletter!

In February we asked for suggestions about books on Christian love. Here are a few suggestions:

- The Four Loves by C.S. Lewis Recapture The Wonder by Ravi Zacharias
- Love Made Perfect by William Greathouse
- A Theology of Love by Mildred Bangs Wynkoop

For workshop information, or to become a sponsor of TDC, please see our website at <u>www.discipleshipcenter.org</u> or you may contact us at: Ed Darling, Founding Director, 3356 E. Genesee Street Road, Auburn, NY 13021; edarlin1@gmail.com // dcentercny60@gmail.com // (315) 256-6548.



### Just a Few Thoughts . . .

- We are very grateful to each of you for every prayer, every act of encouragement, and every dollar you give to The Discipleship Center. May God bless each of you for being a blessing to us!
- Jeff Riggall is helping us with efforts to record TDC workshops to eventually post them on-line at our website for easy access. Thanks for your work, Jeff!
- In 2016, we have presented 8 workshops at Auburn, and 2 workshops at Carthage (thank you Pastor Dave and Chris!). We will also have the privilege of presenting workshops at Upstate NY District Nazarene churches this Fall, in association with the District SDMI Convention tour.



### The SURVEY Says:

In 2014, the Pew Research Center conducted a survey that measured prayer frequency among Americans. Some results:

- 55% pray every day (down from 58% in 2007)
- 21% pray weekly or monthly
- 23% seldom or never pray
- Women (64%) are more likely than men (46%) to pray every day
- Americans age 65+ are more likely to pray daily than adults under 30 (65% to 41%)

For more survey information on American religious practices, go to: www.pewforum.org. (Religious Practices & Experiences)

## All About Prayer

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В	А	L	J	J	S	М	E	Х	Ι	L	Q	L	E	В	Q	F	Η
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ALTAR	ANSWERED	BELIEVE
CONFESSION	CONTINUALLY	DANIEL
DEVOTED	EPAPHRAS	FASTING
GOD	GUIDANCE	HEALING
HOLY	INTERCESSION	PETITION
PRAYER	PRESENCE	REQUESTS
REVIVAL	SPIRIT	THANKS