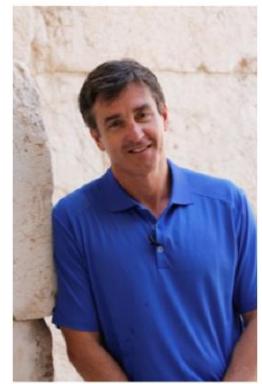


Pastor Allen Jackson



I. Prayer

A. Listening Prayer — “Let’s Pray”

B. Conditions & Opportunities

1. Conditions for answered prayer

James 4:1-4 (NIV®)

¹ What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? ² You want something but don't get it. You kill and covet, but you cannot have what you want. You quarrel and fight. You do not have, because you do not ask God. ³ **When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives**, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures. ⁴ You adulterous people, don't you know that friendship with the world is hatred toward God? Anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God.

2. Opportunities ---authority & power

Luke 11:1-2 (NIV®)

¹ One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples." ² He said to them, "When you pray, say: "Father, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come . . .

"Lord, teach us to pray"

Our father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be your name. (worship/praise)

Your Kingdom Come, Your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. (Intercession)

Give us this day our daily bread (provision)

Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. (repentance & forgiving)

Lead us not into temptation (direction)

Deliver us from evil (deliverance)

For thine is the Kingdom and the glory forever and ever amen (yielding)

A. Training/Teach Us to Pray

Luke 5:16 (NIV®)

¹⁶ But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed.

Luke 6:12-13 (NASB®)

¹² It was at this time that He went off to the mountain to pray, and He spent the whole night in prayer to God.

¹³ And when day came, He called His disciples to Him and chose twelve of them, whom He also named as apostles:

Mark 1:35 (NIV®)

³⁵ Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed.

Matthew 14:23 (NIV®)

²³ After he had dismissed them (disciples), he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone,

II. Opportunity of Prayer

Luke 9:1-2 (NIV®)

¹ When Jesus had called the Twelve together, **he gave them power and authority** to drive out all demons and to cure diseases,² and he sent them out to preach the kingdom of God and to heal the sick.

A. Benefits

1. God directed response to life challenges
2. Awareness of spiritual things
3. God involvement
4. Transformation

B. On Assignment

Luke 10:3 (NIV®)

³ Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves.

John 20:21 (NIV®)

²¹ Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you."

Acts 26:17-18 (NIV®)

¹⁷ I will rescue you from your own people and from the Gentiles. I am sending you to them¹⁸ to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.'

C. For Example

Acts 19:11-20 (NIV®)

(scene 1)

¹¹ God did extraordinary miracles through Paul,¹² so that even handkerchiefs and aprons that had touched him were taken to the sick, and their illnesses were cured and the evil spirits left them.

(scene 2)

¹³ Some Jews who went around driving out evil spirits tried to invoke the name of the Lord Jesus over those who were demon-possessed. They would say, "In the name of Jesus, whom Paul preaches, I command you to come out."

(scene 3)

¹⁴ Seven sons of Sceva, a Jewish chief priest, were doing this. ¹⁵ [One day] the evil spirit answered them, "Jesus I know, and I know about Paul, but who are you?" ¹⁶ Then the man who had the evil spirit jumped on them and overpowered them all. He gave them such a beating that they ran out of the house naked and bleeding.

(scene 4)

¹⁷ When this became known to the Jews and Greeks living in Ephesus, they were all seized with fear, and the name of the Lord Jesus was held in high honor. ¹⁸ Many of those who believed now came and openly confessed their evil deeds. ¹⁹ A number who had practiced sorcery brought their scrolls together and burned them publicly. When they calculated the value of the scrolls, the total came to fifty thousand drachmas. ²⁰ In this way the word of the Lord spread widely and grew in power.

PRAYER

Heavenly Father, let a spirit of prayer grow within us. May we never be content away from You. Open our hearts to understand Your purposes for our lives. Help us to perceive the splendor of Your Kingdom. . . .

Our father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be your name.

Your Kingdom Come, Your will be done on earth, as it is in Heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread

Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.

Lead us not into temptation

Deliver us from evil

For yours is the Kingdom and the glory forever and ever amen.

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