

# CONSTANT PRAYER

A Conversation  
with God



## PRECEPT

### MATTHEW 6:6

<sup>6</sup> But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

### 1 THESSALONIANS 5:17-18

<sup>17</sup> Pray without ceasing. <sup>18</sup> In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

### PHILIPPIANS 4:6

<sup>6</sup> Don't worry about anything, but instead, pray about everything.

## PROMISE

As we look at the Bible, one of the things that are constant in the life of Jesus was prayer. No matter what was happening or what the disciples were doing, even when there was a large crowd among them, Jesus made sure to constantly seek the Father in prayer. We can see how this worked out as His life and prayer empowered Him to overcome every temptation from the evil one. He obeyed the Father even to the point of death, and He is our model, He is the epitome of how we should and ought to live. How many of us believe in the power of prayer, but does not pray as often as we should? Some of us do believe that prayers work but don't have the confidence to do so, or that our prayers are not effective because of we don't feel very spiritual. Sometimes, we lack focus. We have this desire to pray and know God but we easily get distracted. Some of us lack the faith that God will answer our prayers, or that God does not hear our prayers. When things don't go the way we want them to, we doubt God and His power. Paul Miller says, "Oddly enough, many people struggle to pray because they are focusing on praying, not on God." We must understand that prayer is not a formal presentation where we have to use fancy language in order for Him to hear us. It is also not giving God our wishlist, thinking He's a spiritual genie that when we rub Him the right way, He will give us what we want. Lastly, prayer is not a spiritual negotiation where we tell God what we will stop doing in order for Him to give us what we ask for. Prayer is a way of life, constantly prioritizing His presence. It's not just a routine or a momentary action, it is so much more. Jesus would always disconnect from those around Him to fully connect to God. When we do this—free from people, email, social media, and other distractions—we can encounter our Father and invite Him into our circumstances, our hopes, our fears, our dreams, and our pain. Here are some practical steps in order for us to incorporate prayer in our daily lives.

**PRAY SHORT AND SIMPLE (AT THE BEGINNING).** As we develop our prayer life, we will become more and more comfortable in conversing with God and being lost in His presence. Eventually, it will become a way of our lives.

**PRAY EVERY TIME.** When we wake up, thank God for another day that He has given us and ask Him to direct our steps. Thank Him for all the good things and pray to Him in the challenging areas. In everything that we do, we must ask for His advice and guidance. There is just so much in our life that we can pray about.

**PRAY ACCORDING TO GOD'S WILL.** Let's not entirely focus on our own needs. We ought to pray for others as well. As we constantly pray, we will see conflicts being resolved and marriages and relationships being restored. As we pray, we imitate the likeness of Christ and live the way He lived. As we pray, we honour God and get closer to Him.

## PRACTICE

**1. As We Pray.** When would be the best time and where would be the ideal place for you to set aside some time to pray to your Father?

**2. Effective Prayer.** How can you remove distractions in order to have uninterrupted time in prayer with your Father?

## PRAYER

### I. Volunteers

- Pray that God may bring our church more servants to join us in His Kingdom work.

### II. Life Worship

- Pray for the worship team to always be strengthened and to seek the Lord in their personal lives.

### III. Life Link

- Pray that our ushers will serve our brethren and visitors gracefully and lovingly.

### IV. Life Kids

- Pray for strong faith and knowledge of our Lord as our children grow up in the church.

### V. Ministries

- Pray that our ministries will serve to bless and encourage our brethren and the outsiders.

### VI. Growth

- Pray that LCC will trust Jesus to grow His church, in His way and in His power.

### VII. Worship Services

- Pray that our visitors and first-timers will have a positive experience and come back for more.