

| Discussion Topics                                                           | Discussion Starter                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
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| Prayer as perpetual communion with the Lord and Father and not as wish-list | While answered prayers are a beautiful reality and something to be celebrated, they are secondary to the heart of prayer in the same way that a gift from a spouse is secondary to the relationship and conversation in daily walk with them.                                                                                                                                   |
| Prayer is a discipline, but not always a struggle                           | Some are convinced that all struggles and disciplines must be solemn and even difficult. Sometimes the more we are in a discipline we find a rhythm, a joy, a peace, and a place like no other to laugh, to cry and to truly be free.                                                                                                                                           |
| Prayer is holiness-shaping exercise rather than world-changing experience   | When we pray is it us that changes in the light of the God who is active in redeeming work. Ask boldly, but know that we are the ones being shaped. Just as the one who enters the work of training for the race does not make miles shorter, prayer does not make the need for our faith vanish but puts us ready and clothed with Christ for the service he is calling us to. |
| Prayer as discipline and not as fulcrum/lever                               | Moving into the regular practice of Jesus teaching prayer as a constant in relationship and shaping reality, not simply as a thing pushed with enough effort or force of faith to achieve a certain result in the world around us. Less a thing that “works” and more a reality of a central practice/discipline of the disciple.                                               |