



# SESSION 5

## My Prayer For You

the transformative power  
of a life built on prayer

**No matter where you are in life or in your journey of faith, you can experience the fullness of what God wants to give you**

### Connect:

Discuss the following questions:

What key insight or takeaway from last session's study that you would like to share with the group?

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How often do you ask other people to pray for you? What do you usually hope that they will pray for you?

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### Watch:

**Now it's time to watch the video for this session. As you watch, use the following outline to record any thoughts or concepts that stand out to you.**

#### I. THE PICTURE THAT GOD HAS FOR OUR LIVES

A. "In Psalm 92:13, we read that "those who are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God" God doesn't want us just to survive but to flourish"

B. Like Death Valley, there are seeds of potential within all of us that are just waiting to be watered. These seeds will grow when we take these steps that God wants us to take.

C. In Psalm 16:11. we read that God will show us "the path of life, in Your presence is fulness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures for evermore" When we follow the path of life that God sets for us, it leads to fulness and joy.

#### II. THE PATHWAY OF LIFE IN PAUL'S PRAYER FOR HIS CHURCHES

A. Pray that you may know God better

1. "I keep asking the God of our Lord Jesus Christ... give you the spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better" (Ephesians 1:17). The word that Paul uses for *know* in the Greek refers not to mental knowledge but to intimate knowledge.
2. Jesus was never looking for some type of religious following. He was always looking for a relationship. He wants to have an intimate relationship with us.
3. Once we are in a close relationship with God, it empowers the next three steps in the spiritual journey. In fact we can't do the next steps without this one.

B. Pray to overcome the issues that you hold back

1. "I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened Verse 18 a We all looked through the eyes of our heart we look at everything through the lens of what has happened to us in the past, so we all see things differently based on what has happened to us in our lives.
2. All of us have something that holds us back from being the better version of ourselves- from moving to the next place in our spiritual journey that God desires for us. God's plan is actually for us to deal with these issues.
3. We go to God for our forgiveness. But we go to God's people for healing. The power is found in the confession and the honesty and the transparency God wants us to be free.



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### C. Pray for God to reveal your real purpose in life

1. In order that you may know the hope to which he has called you (verse 18b). We pray that God will help us to live in such a way that we discover our true life's purpose.

2. Much of the New Testament is about the spiritual gifts, calling, and purpose that we have in the body of Christ as members of the family of God.

3. Paul states in Romans 12:6 that we have different gifts according to the grace given to each of us. The Greek word for grace in this verse is *charis*, and it refers to a divine enablement.

### D. Pray for God to use you and make a difference

1. "The riches of his glorious inheritance in His holy people (Ephesians 11:8c). Our real purpose in life isn't our careers, paying bills and surviving, or even just enjoying life. Our whole purpose in life is to make an eternal difference in the lives of others.

2. Jesus said, I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete" (John 15:11). Serving others helps us by providing joy and fulfillment in our lives.

3. If we want to find our purpose we're going to need to get involved in our local church. We find our purpose when we are around the other members of the Body of Christ.

### DISCUSS: Discuss what you just watched by answering the following questions

1. The first part of Paul's prayer is: "I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ... may give you the spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better (Ephesians 1:17). What are some of the ways in which you would like to get to know God better?"

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2. The second part of Paul's prayer is: "I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened (verse 18a). Or maybe some of the things that you have been seeing with the "eyes of your heart" ? How do you think this vision and perspective have impacted your prayer life?"

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3. The third part of Paul's prayer is: [I pray] that you make known the hope to which he has called to" (verse 18 b) What has God revealed to you about your purpose in life so far? Do you feel as though you have a clear idea about "the hope to which he has called you"?"

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4. The final part of Paul's prayer is: " [I pray that you may know] the riches of His glorious inheritance and His holy people" (verse 18c) What difference would you most like to make in the lives of those around you? What do you want your spiritual legacy to be?"

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5. Which of these four areas of prayer especially significant to you right now? Why?"

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6. In James 5:16 we read, "Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed." Based on your experience, do you agree that we go to God for forgiveness but to God's people for healing why? why not?

7. What is one of your spiritual gifts that you believe you have or that you have been told by others that you have? how have you used this gift to serve others?

8. what stands out or resonates in this prayer compared to the alert prayer models explored in previous sessions? why?

### RESPOND:

in this week's Teaching, you looked at two verses from the Book of psalms that described the kind of life that God wants all of its children to have. Take a few moments to read through these verses in context on your own and then answer the questions that follow

12The righteous will flourish like a palm tree,  
they will grow like a cedar of Lebanon;  
13planted in the house of the Lord,  
they will flourish in the courts of our God.  
14They will still bear fruit in old age,  
they will stay fresh and green,  
15proclaiming, "The Lord is upright;  
he is my Rock, and there is no wickedness in him."

### Psalm 92:12-15

7I will praise the Lord, who counsels me;  
even at night my heart instructs me.  
8I keep my eyes always on the Lord.  
With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken.  
9Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices;  
my body also will rest secure,  
10because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead,  
nor will you let your faithful <sup>one</sup> see decay.  
11You make known to me the path of life;  
you will fill me with joy in your presence,  
with eternal pleasures at your right hand.

### Psalm 16:7-11

How is the life of a righteous person described in Psalm 92:12-15?

For what does the writer praise the Lord for in Psalms 16:7-11?

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What is required on your part to walk "the path of life" that God has revealed

### PRAY:

as you conclude this session go around the room and share which of these four areas Knowing God better, overcoming issues, discovering purpose, and making a difference You would like others to pray for you. You can be personal and specific or just indic the general category then spend a few minutes praying for each other and any other needs or requests as the Holy Spirit leads thank God for the ways in which he helps you discover your next steps on your Spiritual journey.