PRAYER  
**Talk 6: Getting Down To It**

**Introduction**



**1. How not to**

*Matthew 6:5-8 “And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by men. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full. 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. And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.”*

**2. Praying alone**

**Posture**

*Isaiah 66:1 This is what the LORD says: “Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool. Where is the house you will build for me? Where will my resting place be? 2 Has not my hand made all these things, and so they came into being?” declares the LORD. “This is the one I esteem: he who is humble and contrite in spirit, and trembles at my word.*

**Time**

**Getting Started**

Repent

Plan

Focus

Share

**What to pray for**

a. Pray through the Lord’s prayer (Matthew 6:9-13). Use each of the six requests as the basis for praying through the details of your life.

b. Open the Bible.

* Spiritual growth for self and others (Ephesians 3:14-19)
* Godly living (Colossians 1:9-14)
* The ministry of the church in general (1 Thessalonians 1:2-3)
* The outreach of the church (1 Thessalonians 1:2-10)
* Our own personal witness (Romans 10:1)
* The government, for peace - to preach the gospel (1 Timothy 2:1-2)
* For church leaders and those who teach the word (Colossians 4:4)

c. Concentric circles

d. Long term, short term

e. Membership directory

f. Real Food folder

g. Prayer Tea Card

h. Other

**3. Praying together**

*Acts 2:42 They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.*

*Acts 4: 24 When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God…*

1. Praying in church meetings
2. Praying in small groups
3. Praying with one or two people

**Conclusion**

A final prayer: Heavenly Father, I know I do not deserve to enter your kingdom, but have rebelled against you and need your mercy. Thank you that Jesus has died in my place so my sins might be forgiven and I might adopted into your family.  Please forgive me and cleanse me so I might begin a new life of prayer, and address you personally as my heavenly father now and forever.  Amen