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The Missing Means of Grace

PRAYER

The Throne

Valley of Vision

O God of my delight,
Thy throne of grace
is the pleasure ground of my soul.

Here I obtain mercy in time of need,
here see the smile of thy reconciled face,
here joy pleads the name of Jesus,
here I sharpen the sword of the Spirit,
anoint the shield of faith,
put on the helmet of salvation,
gather manna from thy Word,
am strengthened for each conflict,
nerved for the upward race,
empowered to conquer every foe;
Help me to come to Christ
as the fountain head of descending blessings,
as a wide open flood-gate of mercy.
I marvel at my insensate folly, that
with such enriching favours within my reach
I am slow to extend the hand to take them.
Have mercy upon my deadness for thy Name's sake.
Quicken me, stir me, fill me with holy zeal.
Strengthen me that I may cling to thee
and not let thee go.
May thy Spirit within me draw all blessings
from thy hand.
When I advance not, I backslide.
Let me walk humbly because of good omitted
and evil done.
Impress on my mind the shortness of time,
the work to be engaged in,
the account to be rendered,
the nearness of eternity,
the fearful sin of despising thy Spirit.
May I never forget that
thy eye always sees,
thy ear always hears,
thy recording hand always writes.
May I never give thee rest until Christ is
the pulse of my heart;
the spokesman of my lips,
the lamp of my feet.

HOW CAN I GET MY CHURCH TO PRAY MORE?



HOW CAN WE BE FRIENDS OF JESUS?

John 15:12-17

[12] "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. [13] Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. [14] You are my friends if you do what I command you. [15] No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. [16] You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. [17] These things I command you, so that you will love one another. (ESV)

WHAT DO FRIENDS OF JESUS LOOK LIKE?

WORD "IF YOU DO WHAT I COMMAND"

SACRAMENTS "LOVE ONE ANOTHER AS I HAVE LOVE YOU"

PRAYER "SO THAT WHATEVER YOU ASK THE FATHER IN MY NAME, HE MAY GIVE IT TO YOU."

THESE THREE ARE WHAT THE CHURCH CALLS "THE MEANS OF GRACE".

I. THE MEANS OF GRACE & THE GRACE OF MEANS

How are we graciously offering the Means of Grace? (Word, Sacraments and Prayer)

As Biblical and Gospel-Centered Churches, we are very committed to the Means of Grace, namely the Word, Sacraments and Prayer, but have you thought about The Grace of Means? How are you graciously offering the Means of Grace to your people throughout your ministry?

WORD (Your Head)

Do you have a means of developing the Word of God into the lives of your people throughout the ministry of your church? Where are the gracious offerings of the Word in your church (Preaching, Reading, Meditating, Studying, Memorizing, Training, Sharing, Teaching)?

SACRAMENTS (Your Hands)

How does your ministry move toward Baptism and out from the Lord's Supper? Are the benefits of the Sacraments connected throughout the ministry of your church? Do you see God bringing both covenant children and new believers forward for Baptism? How are you preparing your church to partake in the Lord's Supper? Do you emphasize the different benefits of Baptism and the Lord's Supper in how you administer them from week to week or month to month? Are your people connecting the dots with the Sacraments and offering themselves up as a living sacrifice?

PRAYER (Your Heart)

How are you developing your people in prayer, offering opportunities to pray and be prayed for by the leaders? Is Prayer present throughout your ministry (Prayer in the community, for/with unbelievers, w/ believers, together as the church and among the leaders)? How do you communicate prayer requests and celebrate answered prayers as a church?

THE MEANS OF GRACE

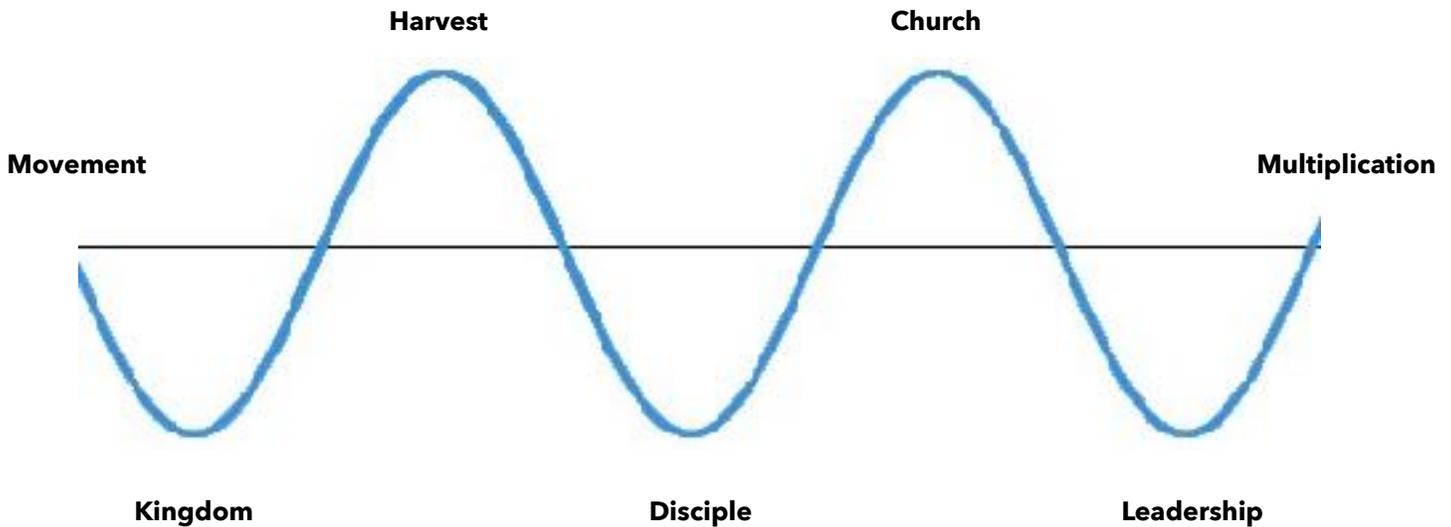
(The means of grace in biblical theology are those things (the *means*) through which God gives/communicates grace to his people.)

Westminster Confession of Faith (Larger Catechism)

Q. 154. *What are the outward means whereby Christ communicates to us the benefits of his mediation?*

A. The outward and ordinary means whereby Christ communicates to his church the benefits of his mediation, are all his ordinances; especially the word, sacraments, and prayer; all which are made effectual to the elect for their salvation.

II. GOSPEL FLOW



Categories inspired by Cypress Project

Movement: Following Jesus, the Creator & Author, as the Way, the Truth and the Life.

God is the Sovereign Creator and Sustainer of all things especially his people and their salvation which he graciously provides through Jesus Christ and applies by the Holy Spirit. God is on the move and will bring to completion everything according to his will. He gives us the privilege and honor to joyfully and humbly keep in step with Him. Am I looking for what God is up to in my community and who he is doing it through?

Kingdom: Following King Jesus into the Clash of the Kingdom of Man & Kingdom of God.

There has been a kingdom of darkness and a kingdom of light at enmity with each other ever since the Fall of man. By God's grace, he rescues us and brings us into the kingdom of his Son. There is not a square inch of this world that is not God's and he calls us to transform it for his glory. If the Kingdom of God were to come in all its fullness, what would change the most in my community? That is where we need to be- the fault-line.

Harvest: Following our Savior Jesus into relationship with the Lost.

As we transform culture, we build transforming relationships. Our engagement in culture creates opportunity and platforms of curiosity. Through our friendships and interactions with those around us, we share the good news in word and deed. We pray for God to win the lost through us. As witnesses of our Lord Jesus Christ, we urge others to believe and to declare their faith through baptism.

Discipleship: Following our Lord Jesus by Faith into every area of Life.

As the Harvest comes in, we are given the responsibility to disciple our new brothers and sisters in the Lord by His Word. We pray for deepened roots and for much fruit to be born in their lives through truth and grace. We urge them to find their identity in Christ and to find security in their union with Him through the Lord's Supper.

Church: Following Jesus, the Head of the Church, together in Unity and Love.

As we find assurance in our union with Christ, we knit our hearts and lives together as the church- the local expression of Christ's body. We share in fellowship and in serving one another with all the blessings that God has bestowed on us. We become partners in the gospel so that every man, woman and child is shown the love of Christ and told of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Leadership: Following our Forerunner Jesus in leading God's people to Glory.

As we use our gifts and pursue our passions that God has given us, leaders arise in the various areas of ministry to equip the saints. We are called to nurture each other and mature each other in the Lord. God gives the church leaders toward that end to ensure purity and peace and purpose within the church.

Multiplication: Following Church Planter Jesus in taking the Gospel where it is not.

As we grow, we seek to be strategic in our stewardship of spreading the gospel. We want to take what God has been doing among us to new places- to where the gospel and worship is not. We seek to build gospel community that is localized through planting churches.

The Grace of Means in the Gospel Flow

	Kingdom	Harvest	Discipleship	Church	Leadership
Means of Grace					
Word	Worldview Christ & Culture	Identity in Christ	Maturity in Christ	Unity in Christ	Shepherding
Sacrament	Incarnation	Baptism	Lord's Supper	Body Life	Serving
Prayer	Prayer in Your Community	Prayer for/with Lost	Prayer with Believers	Prayer in Your Church	Prayer with Leaders

WORD

Kingdom (Worldview)

What biblical resources are your church using to teach on Worldview and Cultural Engagement? (Politics, Business, Arts, Athletics, Education, Medical, Non-Profit, Technology, Agriculture, Legal)

Harvest (Identity in Christ)

What biblical resources are being used to understand and share the gospel? What conferences are you bringing to your church to build up tools for sharing the gospel?

Discipleship (Maturity in Christ)

What biblical resources are you using to systematically disciple your church?
(Identity, Biblical & Systematic Theology, Ordo Salutis, Doctrinal Distinctives)

Church (United Together)

What biblical resources are you using to develop the unity and love of the church?
(Worship, Fellowship, Gifts, Hospitality, Mercy and Generosity)

Leadership (Shepherd & Serve)

What biblical resources are you training your leaders with and ordaining officers?
(Character, Convictions, Charisma)

SACRAMENTS

Kingdom (Incarnation)

How is your church present in the community? What venues are you engaging in your community? Where are your members present (Politics, Business, Arts, Athletics, Education, Medical, Non-Profit, Technology, Agriculture, Legal).

Harvest (Baptism)

How does your church share their faith? Is your church a place where non-believers could understand why you do what you do and how to repent and believe in Christ? How is someone prepared to be baptized in your church? How do you administer Baptism to include the whole congregation (covenantal and believer)?

Discipleship (Lord's Supper)

What are your church's main avenues for discipling your people? Does it account for stages of growth determining which biblical books you teach through? Men, Women, Coed, College, Teens, Youth, Children? How do you prepare your people for communion? How do you administer the Lord's Supper to emphasize the multi-faceted benefits of the Sacrament?

Church (Body Life)

What ways are you uniting the church together throughout the year? How do you pull off fellowship corporately and organically? How do new people get included? Time of Life activities, Serving One Another? Caring for the Hurting?

Leadership (Mentoring)

How is everyone encouraged and trained toward leadership? Women and Youth? What way do you prepare your Officers for ordination? Do you have a pipeline of leadership (deep bench)? How does the congregation tangibly see and experience the leadership in the church? How is discipline taught throughout the church?

III. PRAYER

"Many of us believe the "heavy lifting" of relationship with Jesus is about ministering to our cities through Sunday gatherings, small groups and other events. While those things are necessary, when it comes to prayer, we are often times "functional atheists". A genuine relationship with Jesus simply cannot happen or be maintained without prayer." - Jeff Vanderstelt

Two Things are necessary to nurture a culture of prayer in the church: Desperation & Confidence

Kingdom (Praying In Your Community)

Desperation: The Evil and Brokenness in the World

Confidence: The Lord is Sovereign Creator and Sustainer

Questions to Ask Your Leadership:

How do you systematically pray for your community? Where do you pray for your community in the community? How are you training your people to pray kingdom prayers in light of your community's Politics, Business, Arts, Athletics, Education, Medical, Non-Profit, Technology, Agriculture, Legal)?

"Prayer is political action. Prayer is social energy. Prayer is public good. Far more of our nation's life is shaped by prayer than is formed by legislation. That we have not collapsed into anarchy is due more to prayer than to the police. Prayer is a sustained and intricate act of patriotism in the largest sense of that word – far more precise and loving and preserving than any patriotism served up in slogans. That society continues to be livable and that hope continues to be resurgent are attributable to prayer far more than to business prosperity or a flourishing of the arts. The single most important action contributing to whatever health and strength there is in our land is prayer." - Pastor Eugene H. Peterson

A disciple of Christ is a life on mission, one that I believe is marked deeply by prayer for the people God has sent them to. Our states, our cities, our neighborhoods desperately need the life-giving renewal and redemption that flow from Christ's life, death and resurrection. Praying for the mission of God in our cities is one of the beautiful ways we join God in His renewal and redemption of our city. Let us be people who are marked not just by lives on mission in the everyday, but people who intercede daily and earnestly on behalf of our cities. - Bliss Spiller

SCRIPTURE BASIS:

Jeremiah 29:7

[7] But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the LORD on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare. (ESV)

Isaiah 62:6-7

[6] On your walls, O Jerusalem, I have set watchmen; all the day and all the night they shall never be silent. You who put the LORD in remembrance, take no rest, [7] and give him no rest until he establishes Jerusalem and makes it a praise in the earth. (ESV)

John 18:36-37

[36] Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world." [37] Then Pilate said to him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice." (ESV)

Matthew 26:52-54

[52] Then Jesus said to him, "Put your sword back into its place. For all who take the sword will perish by the sword. [53] Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? [54] But how then should the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must be so?" (ESV)

1 Timothy 2:1-4

[1] First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, [2] for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. [3] This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, [4] who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

Revelation 8:1-5

[1] When the Lamb opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour. [2] Then I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and seven trumpets were given to them. [3] And another angel came and stood at the altar with a golden censer, and he was given much incense to offer with the prayers of all the saints on the golden altar before the throne, [4] and the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, rose before God from the hand of the angel. [5] Then the angel took the censer and filled it with fire from the altar and threw it on the earth, and there were peals of thunder, rumblings, flashes of lightning, and an earthquake. (ESV)

Getting Real:

- Watershed Fellowship (October 3-5, 2015)
- Town Council & State House
- Prayer Walks

How can your Church be a Friend to your Community through Prayer?

Harvest (Praying For/With Lost)

Desperation: I Can't Change the Heart

Confidence: The Lord Came to Seek and Save the Lost

"If God were to answer all your prayers you prayed last week, how many people would be saved today?"
- Neal McGlohon

Questions to ask your Leadership?

How does your church pray for and with the Lost? Corporately and Individually? How are you training your people to guide someone in prayer to the Lord? How are your members neighboring in their sphere of influence?

SCRIPTURE:

Jonah 4:1-3

[1] But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he was angry. [2] And he prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD, is not this what I said when I was yet in my country? That is why I made haste to flee to Tarshish; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from disaster. [3] Therefore now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." (ESV)

Matthew 9:35-38, 10:1

[35] And Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction. [36] When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. [37] Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; [38] therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. . . [1] And he called to him his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every disease and every affliction. (ESV)

Luke 11:5-8

[5] And he said to them, "Which of you who has a friend will go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves, [6] for a friend of mine has arrived on a journey, and I have nothing to set before him'; [7] and he will answer from within, 'Do not bother me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed. I cannot get up and give you anything'? [8] I tell you, though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his impudence he will rise and give him whatever he needs. (ESV)

Ephesians 6:18-20

[18] praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, [19] and also for me, that words may be given to me in

opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, [20] for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak. (ESV)

Getting Real:

- Tex & AnnMargaret McCraw (Michael-Karen-Tammy-Gosia-Mark)
- Brewpub (Cleaning Floors)
- Prayer Circles

How can your Church be a Friend of Sinners through prayer?

Discipleship (Praying With Believers)

Desperation: I don't do the things I should and do the very things I shouldn't

Confidence: The Lord will bring to completion what he began in me

How are you training your church to pray for each other? Repentance & Growth Prayers? Hope of Glory Prayers? Use of the Psalms, the Law, The Lord's Prayer as Prayers?

Scripture:

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

[4] "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. [5] You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. [6] And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. [7] You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. [8] You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. [9] You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates. (ESV)

Matthew 6:7-13

"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. "This, then, is how you should pray: 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.'" (ESV)

Luke 22:31-34

[31] "Simon, Simon, behold, Satan demanded to have you, that he might sift you like wheat, [32] but I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned again, strengthen your brothers." [33] Peter said to him, "Lord, I am ready to go with you both to prison and to death." [34] Jesus said, "I tell you, Peter, the rooster will not crow this day, until you deny three times that you know me." (ESV)

Colossians 1:9-14

[9] And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, [10] so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; [11] being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy; [12] giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. [13] He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, [14] in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. (ESV)

Getting Real:

- Lord's Prayer Grid
- Unexpected Prayer Encouragement
- Life Celebrations (Bringing Jesus to our Parties)
- Life Crisis (Open Door through prayer)

How can you be a Friend to other believers through prayer?

Church (Praying In Your Church)

Desperation: The Disunity, Immaturity, Complexity

Confidence: The Church is Jesus' Bride

Questions to ask your Leaders?

How do you prepare for your congregational prayers each Sunday? Are there special called times of prayer for your church? How do you pray for the church at large in your community and the world?

Scripture:

"How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity... For there the Lord bestows his blessing, even life forevermore" (Psalm 133:1, 3b).

Nehemiah 8:1-2, 5-6

[1] And all the people gathered as one man into the square before the Water Gate. And they told Ezra the scribe to bring the Book of the Law of Moses that the LORD had commanded Israel. [2] So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could understand what they heard, on the first day of the seventh month... [5] And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was above all the people, and as he opened it all the people stood. [6] And Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. (ESV)

Mark 11-17

[17] And he was teaching them and saying to them, "Is it not written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations'? But you have made it a den of robbers." - (ESV)

Acts 1:14, 2:42-47

[1:14] "They all joined together constantly in prayer"... [2:42] And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. [43] And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. [44] And all who believed were together and had all things in common. [45] And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. [46] And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, [47] praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved. (ESV)

(James 5:16)

"Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective".

Getting Real:

- Prayer in Worship
- Prayer Gatherings
- Sermon Series on Prayer (Psalms, Gospels, Epistles)
- Watershed Moments
- Prayer Chains

How can you gather as Friends of Jesus through Prayer as the church?

Leadership (With Leaders)

Desperation: I can't do this alone

Confidence: The Lord raises up companions in the offices (Prophet, Priest, King)

Questions you need to ask your Leaders:

How are your leaders systematically praying for the sheep? How are you teaching husbands and wives to pray together at home and with their children? Are the Leaders praying with each other organically? What % of your officer meetings are committed to prayer together? Are your leaders leading in prayer publicly?

SCRIPTURE:

Mark 1:35-37

[35] And rising very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he departed and went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed. [36] And Simon and those who were with him searched for him, [37] and they found him and said to him, "Everyone is looking for you." (ESV)

Matthew 26:36-46

[36] Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, "Sit here, while I go over there and pray." [37] And taking with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, he began to be sorrowful and troubled. [38] Then he said to them, "My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and watch with me." [39] And going a little farther he fell on his face and prayed, saying, "My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will." [40] And he came to the disciples and found them sleeping. And he said to Peter, "So, could you not watch with me one hour? [41] Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." [42] Again, for the second time, he went away and prayed, "My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done." [43] And again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. [44] So, leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words again. [45] Then he came to the disciples and said to them, "Sleep and take your rest later on. See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. [46] Rise, let us be going; see, my betrayer is at hand." (ESV)

Acts 1:24-26

[24] And they prayed and said, "You, Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which one of these two you have chosen [25] to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place." [26] And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias, and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.

Hebrews 13:17-19

[17] Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.

[18] Pray for us, for we are sure that we have a clear conscience, desiring to act honorably in all things. [19] I urge you the more earnestly to do this in order that I may be restored to you the sooner. (ESV)

Getting Real:

- Shepherding & Serving (Lists)
- Officer & Crew Meetings
- Prayer in Gatherings

How can you as Leaders be Friends to those under your care through prayer?

Remember: Jesus is our Friend

Hebrews 4:14-16

[14] Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. [15] For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. [16] Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. (ESV)

Hebrews 7:25

[25] Consequently, [Jesus] he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them. (ESV)

John 17

[1] When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, [2] since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. [3] And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. [4] I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do. [5] And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed. [6] "I have manifested your name to the people whom you gave me out of the world. Yours they were, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. [7] Now they know that everything that you have given me is from you. [8] For I have given them the words that you gave me, and they have received them and have come to know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. [9] I am praying for them. I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are yours. [10] All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them. [11] And I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one. [12] While I was with them, I kept them in your name, which you have given me. I have guarded them, and not one of them has been lost except the son of destruction, that the Scripture might be fulfilled. [13] But now I am coming to you, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves. [14] I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. [15] I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. [16] They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. [17] Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. [18] As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. [19] And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth. [20] "I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, [21] that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. [22] The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, [23] I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me. [24] Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my

glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. [25] O righteous Father, even though the world does not know you, I know you, and these know that you have sent me. [26] I made known to them your name, and I will continue to make it known, that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them." (ESV)

Numbers 6:24-26

**The LORD bless you and keep you;
the LORD make his face to shine upon you
and be gracious to you;
the LORD lift up his countenance upon you
and give you peace.**

Prayer Resources:

The Praying Life by Paul Miller

Engage The Conversation by John Smed

7 Days of Prayer with Jesus by John Smed

A Simple way to Pray by Martin Luther

Praying the Bible by Donald Whitney

Praying with your eyes open by Richard Pratt

Valley of Vision

Scotty Smith booka on prayer (Everyday Prayers, Every Season Prayers)

A Call to Spiritual Reformation: Praying with Paul by D.A. Carson

Prayer: Experiencing Awe and Intimacy with God Tim Keller

How to Worship Jesus Christ - Joseph Carroll

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