



Passionate Prayer

Growth in Communicating with God One-on-One and in Community with Others

Passionate prayer includes speaking to God often as well as listening for God's voice, promptings, and whispers at all times. It also means that we pray often with other believers and seek God's face in community. In addition, a life of passionate prayer will lead us to pray for and with those who are not yet followers of Jesus. Prayer is a wonderful array of praise, thanks, supplication (asking for God's help and intervention), confession, and so much more. A growing disciple will go deeper and deeper into prayer and this intimacy with God will lead us to love, serve, and share the love of Jesus with lost people.

Indicators of Growth:

1. **Confidence** - helps us rely on the Lord for all things in our life. It will enable us to push forward in the direction that we are called because God is governing and leading. It makes us realize we are not responsible for the results of prayer--our part is to surrender and live in obedience. (Philippians 4:13)
2. **Devotion** - aligning personal desires, plans, worship, and hope with God. In prayer, we declare, "Your will be done!" (Colossians 3:2; Matthew 6:10; Luke 22:42)
3. **Submission** - with awe and reverence, surrendering and yielding our will and plans over to God's guidance as He leads us through Scripture and prayer. (Ephesians 5:21)
4. **Honor** - seeking to honor God with actions and prayer. (Psalms 22:23)
5. **Frequency** - learning to pray at all times, with eyes closed and eyes open.
(1 Thessalonians 5:17; John 17:1)
6. **Community**- making prayer a normative part of being with other believers and learning to pray for and with non-believers. (Acts 1:14 & 4:24)

Ideas for Action to Grow in Passionate Prayer:

1. Set a time and place for prayer each day and be consistent.
2. Keep a prayer journal that includes answered prayers and prayers for people who do not yet know Jesus.

3. Use a prayer list for groups such as family, pastors, friends, people who need to meet Jesus, local leaders, state leaders, national leaders, and world leaders, and others you care about.
4. Seek to break out in spontaneous prayer and worship in the flow of an ordinary day when you have moments alone with God.
5. Commit to attending church weekly, even when you are out of town, and pray for churches you visit and for churches you drive by in the flow of the day.
6. Pray with others when they share a need or joy.
7. Take a 15 to 30-minute retreat where you listen to God's voice. Turn off your devices, but take a piece of paper and something to write down ways you sense the Lord is guiding you.
8. Memorize and lift up prayers that others have prayed (from the Bible and from Christians who have gone before you).
9. Pray the Psalms.
10. Prayer-walk your neighborhood, workplace, or community. As you walk, pray out loud or silently. It could be fun to do this with one or two other Christians.
11. Pray as you drive around your town. If you pass a civic building, pray for those in governmental leadership. As you pass a school, pray for the students, teachers, parents, administrators, and school board members. When you drive by a church, pray for the pastors, board members, congregational members, and for revival! Pay attention to the Holy Spirit as you drive...with your eyes wide open!

Resources for Growth in Passionate Prayer:

Organic Disciples Resources:

1. [*Organic Disciples, Seven Ways to Grow Spiritually and Naturally Share Jesus*](#) (The Book), Part 2 (Chapters 7-9) on Passionate Prayer, Pages 59-89.
2. [*Organic Disciples, Seven Ways to Grow Spiritually and Naturally Share Jesus \(Study Guide\)*](#), on Passionate Prayer, Pages 31-44.
3. [*Organic Disciples, Free Online Video Teaching - Passionate Prayer*](#)
4. Organic Outreach International website, www.OrganicOutreach.org

Books/Articles:

1. Batterson, Mark [*The Circle Maker: Praying Circles Around Your Biggest Dreams and Greatest Fears*](#)
2. Foster, Richard J. [*Prayer: Finding the Heart's True Home*](#)
3. Greig, Pete, God on Mute
4. Harney, Kevin G. "Chapter 4: The Seismic Shift from Me to God" [*Seismic Shifts: The Little Changes that Make a Big Difference in Your Life*](#), p. 59-68
5. Harney, Kevin G. "Chapter 6: The Seismic Shift from Monologue to Dialogue" [*Seismic Shifts: The Little Changes that Make a Big Difference in Your Life*](#), p. 84-96
6. Harney, Sherry [*Praying with Eyes Wide Open*](#)
7. Hontz, Marilyn [*Listening for God: How an Ordinary Person Can Learn to Hear God Speak*](#)

8. Keller, Timothy [Prayer: Experiencing Awe and Intimacy with God](#)
9. Murray, Andrew [Andrew Murray on Prayer](#)
10. Patterson, Ben [Deepening Your Conversation with God: Learning to Love to Pray](#)
11. Patterson, Ben [God's Prayer Book: The Power and Pleasure of Praying the Psalms](#)
12. Samra, Jim [God Told Me: Who to Marry, Where to Work, Which Car to Buy... And I'm Pretty Sure I'm Not Crazy](#)
13. Spurgeon, Charles [Encouraged to Pray: Classic Sermons on Prayer](#)
14. Torrey, R.A. [The Power of Prayer and the Prayer of Power](#)
15. White, John [Daring to Draw Near: People in Prayer](#)
16. Willard, Dallas [Hearing God: Developing a Conversational Relationship with God](#)

Websites/Sermons/Podcasts/Bible Studies:

1. Batterson, Mark, creator, [The Circle Maker 4-Session Bible Study](#). Study Gateway, 2011
2. Chandler, Matt, & The Village Church, creators. [Prayer 4-Session Series](#). RightNow Media, 2013
3. Cymbala, Jim [When God's People Pray: Six Sessions on the Transforming Power of Prayer](#)
4. Harney, Kevin G. ["Metrics... Measurements that Matter: Worship and Prayer"](#) Shoreline Church Sermon
5. ["Practicing Faith Part 3: Praying & Acting"](#) Exploring My Strange Bible Podcast, 13 September 2017
6. ["Praying in the Spirit"](#) Timothy Keller Sermons Podcast by Gospel in Life, 25 February 2016
7. ["Praying with Eyes Wide Open 4-Week Sermon Series"](#) Shoreline Church, Pastor Kevin Harney & Sherry Harney, 2017

Apps/Other:

1. [Echo Prayer App](#)
2. [First 15 Prayer App](#)
3. Lettering Design Co., [My Prayer Journal: A 3-Month Guide to Prayer, Praise, and Thanks](#), My Prayer Journal, 2017
4. [War Room](#). Directed by Alex Kendrick and Stephen Kendrick, performances by Alena Pitts, T.C. Stallings, and Priscilla Shirer, Kendrick Brothers Productions, 2015
5. [World Prayer Map](#) or [United States Prayer Map](#) by Every Home for Christ

Resources for Kids:

1. Berndt, Jodie [Praying the Scriptures for Your Children: Discover How to Pray God's Purpose for Their Lives](#), Zondervan, 2013
2. [Child's World Prayer Map](#) by Every Home for Christ
3. Ellett, Alissa ["10 Ways to Pray with Kids"](#) Illustrated Children's Ministry, 27 July 2017
4. Kruger, Melissa [5 Things to Pray for Your Kids: Prayers that Change Things for the Next Generation](#), The Good Book Company, 2019