

“Connecting With God’s Heart”
 Message 3 in the series, “Awakening Grace”
 Philippians 4:4-7

A PRAYER FOCUS:

“God, _____ in this situation
 and how can I _____?”

BY PRAYER, WE CONNECT TO:

- The _____ of God (Philippians 4:4-5 NIV)
 - I’ll save you. – Romans 10:9*
 - You can trust Me – Romans 8:28*
 - I’ll comfort you – 2 Cor. 1:3-4*
 - I’ll give you new life – 2 Cor. 5:17*
 - I’ll forgive you – 1 John 1:9*
 - I’ll finish what I started in you – Philippians 1:6*
 - I’ll take care of you – Matthew 6:31-33; Philippians 4:19*
 - I’ll give you rest – Matthew 11:28-30*
 - I’ll give you abundant life – John 10:10*
 - I’ll protect you – John 10:28*
 - I’ll equip you – John 14:16*
 - I’ll return to take you to be with me – John 14:2-3*

- The _____ of God
 - ~ “The Lord is near.” (Philippians 4:5 NIV)

- The _____ of God
 - ~ “Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.” (Philippians 4:6 NIV)

- The _____ of God
 - ~ “And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 4:7 NIV)

Philippians 4:4-7 (NIV)

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! ⁵ Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

ESTABLISHING RHYTHM:

1. Set a time each day for prayer. Set your phone alarm, if necessary.
2. Bring to mind the person(s) or situation(s) that are needing prayer.
3. Focus. Pray the Lord’s Prayer: *Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.*
4. Thinking of the person or situation (#2 above), pray: “God, what are you doing in this situation and how can I help?”
5. Listen for the heart of God. Rest in His peace and presence.

FOR GROW GROUPS AND PERSONAL REFLECTION:

1. How is prayer a part of your daily rhythm? What kind of impact does it have on your life?
2. Have you ever struggled with trusting God? If you are comfortable doing so, share it with your group or a friend.
3. Read the “promises of God” listed on the other side of this insert. How do you react to each of those verses?
4. When were times when you experienced God answering your prayer?
5. As you’ve listened to the message or as you read the Scripture passages, what is God bringing to your mind and heart? What do you want to do about it?

*This series is adapted from the book *Awakening Grace* by Matt LeRoy and Jeremy Summers, copyright © 2012, Wesleyan Publishing House. Used by permission.