

*Keeping Company with Jesus*  
*Pray*  
*November 18-19, 2008*

I. Introduction

II. Basics of Prayer

A. Top 10 Reasons Why We Don't Pray

1. **We're too busy.** How can I practice "slowing" as a regular part of life?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. **We really want to be in control of our life.** Where does "control" take over in my life? \_\_\_\_\_
3. **We don't feel "good" at praying.** What inadequacies in praying hinder you in your prayers? \_\_\_\_\_
4. **We don't know how.** What have you learned this week to help you?  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. **Unbelief.** Do you believe that God can and will answer prayer?  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. **Lack faith to believe things could change.** What don't you believe that God could possibly do? Can you believe Him to do it?  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. **Our vision is too small.** How does your vision for yourself, your neighbors, your family, your friends, and your work need to be enlarged through prayer? What visionary prayers are you praying for those in your life?  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. **We have sin in our lives.** Have you incorporated confession into your prayer times? Do you have a contrite heart?  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. **We wonder if God can really hear us.** Do you believe that God can hear you? Are you ready to practice listening prayer?  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. **We aren't helpless!** Are you truly helpless? What will it take to realize your need? \_\_\_\_\_

## B. An attitude of helplessness

1. Our helplessness could be the very thing which God uses to take access to \_\_\_\_\_. God is looking for a humble and contrite heart. (1 Peter 5:5-6)
2. Learn to \_\_\_\_\_ for the feeling of helplessness which He has given you. (1 Thessalonians 5:18)
3. Our helplessness reminds us of our need to be \_\_\_\_\_ and strongly dependent upon Him for everything. (John 15:5)

## C. Two-way conversation

1. We must lift our eyes to a God who is \_\_\_\_\_. (Matthew 28:20)

*“Think often on God, by day, by night, in your business and even in your diversions. He is always near you and with you; leave him not alone.” - Brother Lawrence*

2. As we realize God is God and we are not, we are able to \_\_\_\_\_ with faith and courage that He will hear us. (Psalm 34:4-6 and Habakkuk 2:1-2)
3. Listening (John 10:4, 27, 16)
  - a. God may speak to us as a- \_\_\_\_\_
3. Speaking to God. (Jeremiah 33:3)

## III. The Power of Intercession

### A. Meeting with Persistence

1. The Hebrew word for intercession is paga, and it means \_\_\_\_\_. When we pray to God, we are \_\_\_\_\_. In prayers of intercession, we are meeting with Him to ask that He meet with someone else. We are the \_\_\_\_\_, standing as a representative and asking for God’s intervention on someone’s behalf. (pp. 40, Intercessory Prayer, Dutch Sheets)
2. We are not to \_\_\_\_\_ in our praying for others. (Luke 18:1-8)
3. Supplication means to ask with \_\_\_\_\_, with \_\_\_\_\_ and with \_\_\_\_\_.