

BOOK OF Prayers

Part 1: The Prayer of Moses

Big Idea

This week, Pastor Chris kicked off a new series about prayer. It can sometimes be a struggle to know how to pray, especially if we've allowed our prayers to become routine. Fortunately, the Bible outlines many different types of prayers we can use as a pattern, including the prayer of Moses. The prayer of Moses outlines a series of steps we can take to draw closer to God: give God thanks, focus on the cross, offer every part of our lives to God, invite the Holy Spirit to work in us, claim the promises of God's Word, worship His name, and intercede for others. By praying this way, we avoid merely coming to God with our wish list each day. Instead, we shift the focus to God and others by following godly principles given to us through the Old Testament Tabernacle.

"Have the people of Israel build me a holy sanctuary so I can live among them. You must build this Tabernacle and its furnishings exactly according to the pattern I will show you." (Exodus 25:8-9 NLT)

"Inside the Tent of Meeting, the LORD would speak to Moses face to face, as one speaks to a friend." (Exodus 33:11a NLT)

Discussion Questions

- Have you ever had a child, employee, or friend who only talked to you when they needed something? How did that make you feel? Can a relationship thrive under those circumstances?
- Think about the closest relationship in your life. It could be a spouse, parent, sibling, or friend. Imagine spending the next week focusing on what you admire about the other person, complimenting them, and thinking of ways to make them feel happy. How might this affect the relationship? How can you apply this principle to your relationship with God?
- Are we more likely to impact the world by praying for ourselves or by praying for others? What is one way this week to make sure we are prioritizing others in prayer?

Prayer Focus

Ask God to help you get closer to Him this week. Pray that He reveals any destructive or distracting prayer habits and that He provides you the boldness and wisdom to replace them with new and healthy prayer habits. Ask God to help you develop a more intimate, loving, and intentional prayer life.

Next Steps

This week marks the beginning of 21 Days of Prayer—try participating! Attend in person if you are able. Set a goal to attend or participate in prayer services this week and ask God for help in holding yourself accountable and building momentum in your prayer life.

Leader Tip

Open group time by praying through the prayer pattern outlined in the sermon, assigning the different steps to different members of the group. Remember to pray them in order. Close group time by encouraging your members to set aside self-interest and focus on drawing closer to God during 21 Days of Prayer.