

### Practical Questions to Consider

- 1) What is one thing you can do to grow in your intake of God's Word?
- 2) What time of the day can you commit to spending time in God's Word?
- 3) What kind of plan will you make to structure your time in God's word? (e.g., *daily Bible reading plan; Bible in a year; book of the Bible; Psalm/Proverb a day*)
- 4) How will you seek to apply God's word each day?
- 5) How will you structure your prayer time?

### Meeting with God Core Seminar Schedule

Week 1: Introduction: The What, Why and How of Meeting with God

Week 2: Meeting with God in His Word: Hearing and Reading

Week 3: Meeting with God in His Word: Studying, Meditating and Memorizing

Week 4: Meeting with God through Prayer

Week 5: Prayer: Hindrances and Practicalities

Week 6: Panel

## **Core Seminars—Meeting with God** **Class 5: Prayer: Purposes, Pitfalls, & Practicalities**



**Quiet time** is the part of the day that we set aside for the worship of God, for the reading of the Word of God and for fellowship with God so that we would know Him more, know ourselves in light of Him, and know the world according to His perspective.

**Prayer** is the *Spirit-given, Word-saturated* response, through communication, to meeting with God.

### Objectives of Prayer

#### **Glorifying God**

- *What does it mean for God to be glorified?*  
Revelation 21:23

John 14:13-14

<sup>13</sup> *Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup> If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.*

- Pray in Jesus' name
- Our prayers will be answered
- God will be glorified

John 15:7-8

<sup>7</sup> *If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup> By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.*

- Abide in Him
- His words abide in us

## **Bearing Fruit**

John 15:16

<sup>16</sup> *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.*

- “...so that...”
- Galatians 5:22-23

## **Wartime access to our Great Commander**

- Christians are in a fight  
<sup>7</sup>*I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.* (2 Timothy 4:7)
- Christians are soldiers  
<sup>3</sup>*Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus.* <sup>4</sup>*No soldier gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to please the one who enlisted him.* (2 Timothy 2:3-4)
- Christians have an enemy  
<sup>8</sup>*Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.* (1 Peter 5:8)

## **Objects for prayer**

### **Other people**

John 13:34-35

<sup>34</sup> *A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another.* <sup>35</sup> *By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”*

- Matthew 22:37-39
- Ephesians 6:18
- Ephesians 6:10-20

## **Pitfalls in meeting with God**

### **Languishing connection with God**

- Lack of Fruit
- Lack of focus
- Lack of response to prayers
- Lack of desire to read the Bible or pray
- Unrepentant sin/feelings of unworthiness

Response: IOUS

- **Incline** (Psalm 119:36)  
<sup>36</sup> *Incline my heart to your testimonies, and not to selfish gain!*
- **Open** (Psalm 119:18)  
<sup>18</sup> *Open my eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of your law.*
- **Unite** (Psalm 86:11)  
<sup>11</sup> *Teach me your way, O Lord, that I may walk in your truth; unite my heart to fear your name.*
- **Satisfy** (Psalm 90:14)  
<sup>14</sup> *Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.*

### **Legalism**

- Justification – Being *declared* righteous by God: position before God
- Sanctification – Being *made* righteous by God: process

### **Laziness**

John 15:5

*“...apart from me, you can do nothing.”*

*The Roots of our Pitfalls: lack of desire for God*