

## Keys to Effective Prayer

### Praying in secret.

Jesus said in Matthew 6:6, “But you, when you pray, go into your inner room, close your door and pray to your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees what is done in secret will reward you.” One of the bed rock principles of Christian living is that “whatever a man sows, this he will also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life” (Gal. 6:7-8). To pray for show is sowing to the flesh, but to pray in secret is to approach God with greater focus and humility. For He is in the secret place with us.

Enhance and Expand Your Prayer Life. Pick up a copy of: *The Battle Plan for Prayer: From Basic Training to Targeted Strategies*, by Stephen & Alex Kendrick,

Prayer is not a normal part of the life of the natural man. We hear it said that a person’s life will suffer if he doesn’t pray, but I question that. What will suffer is the life of the Son of God in him, which is nourished not by food, but by prayer. When a person is born again from above, the life of the Son of God is born in him, and he can either starve or nourish that life. Prayer is the way that the life of God in us is nourished. Our common ideas regarding prayer are not found in the New Testament. We look upon prayer simply as a means of getting things for ourselves, but the biblical purpose of prayer is that we may get to know God Himself.

— Oswald Chambers



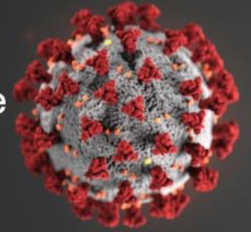
Worship  
Sunday, 10:15 a.m. Facebook live

Pastor Bill: 815-742-4757  
Meetings by appointment



The Week of March 22, 2020

Praying  
during the  
COVID  
19 Crisis



**PRACTICE OF PRAISE:** Spend several minutes giving praise to God.

1 Chronicles 16:  
23 Sing to the LORD, all the earth; proclaim his salvation day after day.  
24 Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples.  
25 For great is the LORD and most worthy of praise; he is to be feared above all gods. 26 For all the gods of the nations are idols, but the LORD made the heavens. 27 Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and joy are in his dwelling place.

**CONFESSION-** JAMES 5:16  
Take several minutes for silent prayer and confession of sin. This is just between you and God.

16 Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

**PRAYING FOR YOUR SPOUSE**

That your spouse would love the Lord with all of his/her heart, mind, soul, and strength. (Matt. 22:36-40)

**PRAYING FOR FAMILY**

I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth.

3 John 4

If married, pray that your marriage is a representation of the gospel. Eph. 5:22, 25



**PRAYING FOR OTHERS**

That they would fully surrender Their lives to the lordship of Jesus Christ. (Rom. 10:9-10; 12:1-2)

Who do you know that needs prayer?  
Check out emails and texts from the church office.

Contact a neighbor, ask how you can pray for them.

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**PRAYING FOR THOSE WHO DO NOT KNOW CHRIST**

That God would connect them to genuine believers and the simplicity of the gospel. (Rom. 1:16; 1 Tim. 2:5-6)

**PRAYING FOR KEOKUK & IOWA LEADERS**

That governmental leaders would come to the knowledge of Christ and surrender to his lordship. (1 Tim. 2:4)

That political leaders will have wisdom. (James 1:5)

**PRAYING FOR OUR COMMUNITY:**

Praying for Health Care Workers, Police & Fire.

That they not get distracted or coward into passivity but embrace responsibility. (Neh. 6:1-14)

**PRAYING FOR THE ELDERS & PASTOR**

That they would experience the feeling and anointing of the Holy Spirit. (John 15:4-10; 1 John 2:20,27)

**PRAYING FOR OUR CHURCH – KEOKUK EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH**

That we find new ways to effectively serve Jesus well.

That we get help to handle the technological changes that need to be made.

That people come to faith in Christ during this time of crisis.