

ESPRESSO SHOT

PRAYER
MATT RANDALL

Prayer: An ongoing internal and/or external conversation with God

We struggle to pray because:

I've Got This

The Right Words – IKEA

God Doesn't Listen or Care

Shame

Unanswered Prayer

“But if you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask for anything you want, and it will be granted!” *John 15:7*

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. *1 John 1:9*

He has removed our sins as far from us as the east is from the west. The Lord is like a father to his children, tender and compassionate to those who fear him. *Psalms 103:12-13*

A healthy relationship with Christ is best identified by how we communicate with him.

Persistent prayer builds a resilient faith.

Rejoice always, **pray without ceasing**, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. *1 Thessalonians 5:16-18*

Adialeptos: Properly, no unnecessary gaps in space or time, i.e. “as often as required”

“Praying with **frequency** gives us the readiness to pray again as needed from moment to moment. **The more we pray, the more we think to pray**, and as we see the results of prayer—the responses of our Father to our requests—our confidence in God’s power spills over into other areas of our life.” — Dallas Willard

Specific prayer fuels our faith.

Do not be anxious about anything, but in **everything**, by **prayer** and **petition**, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts in Christ Jesus. *Philippians 4:6-7*

“Perhaps, however, the most blessed element in this **asking and getting** from God lies in the **strengthening of faith** which comes when a **definite** request has been granted. What is more helpful and inspiring than a ringing testimony of what God has done?” — Rosalind Goforth

Don't let unanswered prayer keep you from what God has for you.

“Sometimes God has to let the sun go down so that his glory can shine through our lives. The darker it gets in your situation, the brighter God in his goodness and grace can shine through you for the world to see.” — Steven Furtick

What reason have you allowed to limit your prayer?

What specific things will you give over to God this week in prayer?

To further explore and apply this message with your small group, visit eclife.org/groups to access this week’s group discussion questions.

EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

Full list of events and registration is available at eclife.org's [EVENTS](#) page

VERB

Designed to help 7th-12th grade students connect with God and with one another, each month’s VERB focuses on a different theme that will help students grow in their relationship with Jesus. Students will experience a friendly, welcoming environment that is both fun and encouraging.

When: Sunday, October 27, 6:00pm

Where: Greenwood Campus E-Café & Auditorium

The 1824

Join us for an environment created specifically for young adults: 18* to 24 years old. Each month, we gather for worship, teaching, and a chance to chat with others facing similar unique life experiences.

When: Thursday, October 31, 7:00pm

Where: Greenwood Campus Fieldhouse

*18-year-old attendees must be graduated seniors.

Impact 101

Did you know that God has given you—yes YOU!—unique talents and abilities? Maybe it’s making others feel welcome, brewing up a perfect cup of coffee, teaching kids, or knowing the ins and outs of production. No matter your gift, the Impact Team has a spot for you! Connect with us at Impact 101, your first step to joining the Impact Team. Learn more and register at eclife.org/impact-101. (Childcare is provided.)

When: Monday, November 11, 6:30pm

Registration is required.

Middle School Retreat

A day designed just for middle school students, including games, food, fun, and an encouraging message. Students not currently attending a church can come as your guest for free. Visit eclife.org/events to register.