

It's easy to treat prayer as just a way to convince God to do what we want him to do. There's so much more to the purpose of prayer—it lies in surrendering.

## **Message Notes And Highlights**

- P.R.A.Y. P = Pause. Intentionally pause each day to meet with God.
- R = Reflect. Reflect on who you're talking to, his goodness, his greatness, his character.
- A = Ask. Ask for what you need—it builds your relationship with God.
- Y = Yield.
- Don't be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your request to God. | Philippians 4, v.6
- The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results. | James 5, v.16
- To yield is to surrender our will and our plans to a greater power.
- Then he said to them all: "Whoever wants to be my disciple (or my follower) must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me." | Luke 9, v.23
- We were created to know the love of God, the peace of trusting him, and the beauty of relationships that reflect his sacrificial love for others.
- This, then, is how you should pray: "'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven." | Matthew 6, vv.9-10
- The purpose of prayer isn't to convince God to do what I want him to do; it's to align my will with his.
- Start your day with a prayer of surrender—it positions you to live that day for God's purposes.
- Yielding and surrendering in prayer affects what we prioritize, how we treat people, the words that we speak, the way that we sacrifice.
- Prayer of surrender Father, today I surrender completely to the control of your Spirit in my life. I surrender my pride, my selfish ambitions, my fears, my anxiety, and my control issues. I surrender my thoughts, my desires, my hands and what I do, my time, my resources, and my words. Please help me to know your love deeply today and to act out



of love for you and for others. Please help me to see everything you want me to do, and give me the courage and grace to carry it out.

## **Discussion Questions**

- 1. Can you think of a time when what you wanted was different than what God wanted for your life? As you look back, what can you learn from that?
- 2. When is prayer most helpful for you—in the morning, during the day, or at night, or some combination? Why?
- 3. Consider these words from the prayer of surrender: "I surrender my pride, my selfish ambitions, my fears, my anxiety, and my control issues. I surrender my thoughts, my desires, my hands and what I do, my time, my resources, and my words." Which of these is most challenging for you to surrender? Why do you think that is?
- 4. Beyond praying, what would it look like for you to yield and surrender more to God's will and plan in your daily life?