



JESUS PEOPLE



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THE MINISTRY YEARS OF JESUS

Jesus People Part 2—Pray Like Jesus Pastor Rich Harris 6.12.2022

USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures references in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to discuss the weekend message.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together. Give priority to the needs and pace of your group members.

While the questions are important, remember your group's goal is to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships. Use the discussion questions as you see fit but emphasize the relationships.

Jesus is the example that every believer should seek to follow.

[1 John 2:5-6, NIV]

5...This is how we know we are in him: **6 Whoever claims to live in him must live as Jesus did.**

[John 12:49, NLT]

49 I don't speak on my own authority. **The Father who sent me has commanded me what to say and how to say it.**

[John 14:31, NIV]

31...I love the Father and do exactly what my Father has commanded me.

He retained all of His God attributes, but He exercised restraint in using them.

Jesus got all of his assignments and direction from the Father.

[Matthew 26:53-54, NLT]

53 “Don’t you realize that I could ask my Father for thousands of angels to protect us, and he would send them instantly? **54** But if I did, how would the Scriptures be fulfilled that describe what must happen now?”

[Luke 5:16, NIV]

16 But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed.

3 Keys to Approaching God in Prayer

1. Prayer isn’t about you and other people; it’s about you and God!

[Matthew 6:5, ESV]

And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward.

[Matthew 6:6, ESV]

But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

Prayer has the power to help us build a deep, personal relationship with the Lord.

2. Prayer is about bringing your heart to God honestly, without feeling the need to dress it up!

[Matthew 6:7-8, ESV]

7 And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words. **8** Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

Every single day, I come back to the feet of Jesus.

—Pastor Craig Johnson, Lakewood Church

When it comes to prayer, words per minute is not the point!

3. Prayer is about approaching God as FATHER!

[Psalm 103:13, NLT]

The Lord is like a father to his children, tender and compassionate to those who fear Him.

[James 1:17, NLT)

Whatever is good and perfect is a gift coming down to us from God our Father, who created all the lights in the heavens. He never changes or casts a shifting shadow.

[Colossians 1:15, NLT]

Christ is the image of the invisible God. He existed before everything was created and is supreme over all creation...

[Mark 5:25-28]

25 A woman in the crowd had suffered for twelve years with constant bleeding. **26** She had suffered a great deal under the care of many doctors and had spent all she had, yet instead of getting better she grew worse. **27**

She had heard about Jesus, so she came up behind him through the crowd and touched his robe. **28** For she said, “If I touch even his garments, I will be made well.”

[Mark 5:39-30]

29 Immediately the bleeding stopped, and she could feel in her body that she had been healed of her terrible condition. **30** Jesus realized at once that healing power had gone out from him, so he turned around in the crowd and asked, “Who touched my robe?”

[Mark 5:33]

Then the frightened woman, trembling at the realization of what had happened to her, came and fell to her knees in front of him and told him what she had done.

[Mark 5:34]

“Daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace. Your suffering is over.”

FOR MONDAY—

1. Set aside a time of undistracted prayer to engage relationally with God.
2. Seek God’s will and direction for your next season, following suit with how Jesus operated.

TALK IT THROUGH

1. How is prayer a conversation and a relational connection with God? Have you ever struggled to get the “right words” articulated?
2. Why was it significant that Jesus exercised restraint, despite having full access to His divine nature? How have we seen

Jesus operate under the covering and submission to God?
(Consider John 12:49, 14:31.) How can we emulate this?

- 3.** What are some biblical examples of miraculous things that happened as a result of Jesus' time of prayer?
- 4.** What does your prayer life currently look like? Is it marked by power and have impact on people? If not as much as one would like, how can we grow in this discipline?
- 5.** When have you experienced a time of sustained spiritual growth? What factors influenced this?
- 6.** Why is it crucial not to confuse the nature of our relationship with our earthly father to that with our heavenly father?
- 7.** Knowing that the Father understands you, what can you bring to Him in prayer? How does that produce freedom, grace, love, and the heart of a Father for His child?
- 8.** What do you think God might do if you committed to praying to Him everyday?