



All Night Prayer
Guide

April 4-5, 2008



MarkMirza.com

Revised 10/2023, but only partially so you can still see
how our all night prayer times varied

Good Evening,

Our desire is that this time of prayer is a wonderful blessing for you.

We will be very active tonight as we talk to God, listen to God, search His scriptures, and fellowship with one another.

We look forward to a wonderful time tonight.

Kemper, Lerry & Mark
4/4/2008

PS When we are together, we
 will be in Heritage Hal
PSS When we return, each hour,
 share with others your prayer times

The lessons on the following pages are originally from In Touch (InTouch.org)

During each prayer session you will travel (alone or in pairs), into other rooms, etc & return to Heritage Hall at the end of the hour.

TONIGHT'S SCHEDULE

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| 8:00pm - 9:00pm | Arrival & Fellowship |
| Lesson 1 Why Praise? | |
| 9:00pm - 10:00pm | Pray ALONE, with God |
| 10:00pm - 11:00pm | Corporate Worship/Prayer |
| Lesson 2 A Life Changing Prayer Colossians 1:9-14 | |
| 11:00pm -12:00am | Pairs Prayer |
| 12:00am - 1:00pm | Corporate Worship/Prayer |
| Lesson 3 Praying for Your Child's School By Mimi Greenwood Knight / September 25, 2006 | |
| 1:00am - 2:00am | Pairs Prayer |
| 2:00am - 3:00am | Corporate Worship/Prayer |
| Lesson 4 The Practical Helper READ 1 Corinthians 2:11-13 | |
| 3:00am - 4:00am | Pairs Prayer |
| 4:00am - 5:00am | Corporate Worship/Prayer |
| Lesson 5 Wholly Surrendered LUKE 1:26-38 | |
| 5:00am - 6:00am | Pray ALONE, with God |
| 6:00am - 7:00am | Wind Down/ Rejoice Corporate Worship/Prayer |

Lesson 1

Why Praise?

When you gather with your family this Thanksgiving, will you set aside time to express gratitude to God for the blessings He's given you? Psalm 92:1 says, "It is good to give thanks to the LORD, and to sing praises to Thy name, O Most High." Expressing our appreciation and worship—not only at Thanksgiving, but all year long—causes an amazing transformation in the life of a believer. Let me share with you seven different reasons why praise and gratitude are so beneficial to us.

First, praise helps us readjust our focus. Our culture pushes us to "be more, do more and get more." Tension, stress, and pressure distract us from God. Unless we renew our focus on the Lord, we have a tendency to drift away from our first priority in life. Our thinking, our interests, and our use of time become self-centered instead of Spirit-led. Praising and thanking the Lord changes that. When we praise Him, we remember that our lives should center around God. We recognize if our lives are off track, and we are motivated to get our hearts right with the Father. Praise refocuses us on eternal matters.

Second, praise reminds us of our dependence on the Lord. When we thank God and praise Him, we remember how much we need Him. No one in the world—whether that person is a believer or not—can survive independently of the Lord for a single moment. In the blink of an eye, He can stop a heart from beating. He can prevent us from taking our next breath or from waking up tomorrow. A person's actions may express the independence of his spirit, but every person alive is dependent on his or her Creator. Praise reminds us of our need to rely completely on the Lord.

Third, praise releases us from our anxieties. I believe one of the avenues God provides for us to be physically and mentally healthy is for us to engage in thanking and praising Him. Whole-hearted, genuine praise drives out tension. The next time you feel anxious and on edge, just begin to praise God. What if you don't feel like praising Him? Do it anyway. Thank Him for who He is and what He's done for you, and I guarantee you'll lose some of your anxiety and tension.

Fourth, praise refreshes our relationship with God. The distractions we face daily can interfere with the closeness of our fellowship with the Lord. He never leaves us, but we may *feel* distant from Him. There is something about praising Him and thanking Him that refreshes and renews our relationship—our oneness and our intimacy with Him. Praise enables us to renew our emotional connection with God and restore our passion for Him.

Fifth, praise refines our spiritual perception. As you praise, God sharpens your ability to understand who He is and what He is like. You begin to understand the deep things of God. I believe a person who consistently fails to express

whole-hearted praise will never reach his or her spiritual potential. Our ability to discern spiritual truth also decreases when we neglect to offer gratitude to almighty God.

Sixth, praise reinforces our faith. One of the best ways to have your faith strengthened is to spend time praising and thanking God for what He has done in your life. If you hit a dry period in which nothing seems to be happening spiritually, begin to praise your heavenly Father. Recall His blessings. Think about specific ways God has answered your prayers, met your needs, protected you, and worked in your life. You say, "But I don't know how to praise God." Simply tell Him that. He understands. If you ask your Father for help, He'll show you how to adore and thank Him.

Seventh, praise rejoices our spirits. When you and I lose ourselves in who God is and what He is doing, He fills us with a tremendous, incomparable joy. You see, the truth is that it's impossible to give to the Father without getting something in return. Even when we focus solely on the Lord, making Him the center of our thoughts and expressing our adoration, we can't give more generously than God. We end up benefiting from the praise and thanksgiving we offer to Him.

Why should you and I praise God? His Holy Word says it's good. That should be enough motivation for anyone. But I believe when we take our focus off ourselves and devote time and energy to magnifying our heavenly Father, we also reap tremendous spiritual rewards that will benefit us here and now, as well as in eternity.

Lesson 2

A Life Changing Prayer

Colossians 1:9-14

Col 1:9-14 Notes from Dr. Stanley's Sermon 3/30/2008 "A Life Changing Prayer"

Lord I pray that _____ might:

Know fully Your will for her life (v9). Lord I pray that You will give her direction for her life and that _____ will gain "Spiritual Wisdom" which is seeing her life from Your perspective. Lord I know that You will reveal Your will to her if she is willing to obey it.

Lord I pray that _____ would walk worthy of Christ's name (v10). Lord I know that when _____ name's the name of Jesus that society will expect him to be different in character, conduct and conversation. And so I pray that he will be an extension of Jesus Christ, an exhibition of His character and a demonstration of His power.

Lord, I also pray that _____ would be fruitful in every good work (v10). And that she'd not get confused between being busy and being fruitful, that the difference she makes in other's lives will be uplifting and not destructive. I also pray Lord that the good work that she does will be related to Your will that I am praying that You reveal to her.

Lord, I ask You to increase _____ knowledge of You (v10) and that his knowledge should reach further than simply knowing what to do, but also knowing how to do what

you show him to do. Lord I further pray that _____ would grow his knowledge by studying Your Word, applying Your Word to his life and then observing the consequences of both doing Your will and seeing what happens when he doesn't do Your will.

Lord, also let _____ experience Your power (v11). Lord You will give her whatever is necessary to accomplish Your will. In fact, _____ already has, by virtue of the Holy Spirit living in her, all of the power she will ever need. And so Lord, let her learn how to live out of the energy and the power of the Holy Spirit.

Finally Lord, let him learn to joyously give thanks to You (vs11-14). I pray that _____ will have a right attitude toward life, knowing that You are always working something good out of his trials, and Lord that those around him would sense an attractiveness that You define by his heart.

As Dr. Stanley stated, this is not a prayer that you ever have to finish with, "*If it be Your will*", for this prayer is ALWAYS God's will.

Who will you commit to praying these things for?

Lesson 3

Praying for Your Child's School

By Mimi Greenwood Knight / September 25, 2006

Prayer can make a difference in today's education system. Start by praying for these requests.

Pour out your heart like water before the face of the Lord. Lift up your hands toward Him for the lives of your children. Lamentations 2:19



Do you pray for your child's school? For the teachers? For the administrators? For the people who prepare lunch? For the bus driver who delivers him or her safely to your front door? One of my favorite Christian-radio talk show hosts ends each interview by telling his guests, "I know my listeners would want me to ask you this. How can we pray for you?" Wouldn't that be a nice question to ask the folks at your child's school? "How can we pray for you?"

Here's how some school workers answered.

"Pray for unity in your child's school. If everyone was of one mind working together, imagine what we could accomplish in the lives of our students."

Sherry Jenkins, Custodian

"Pray for your child's teacher to have energy to keep things interesting and be able to find balance. That it won't all be about academics, but [that] teachers will find the time to have a relationship with each student."

Liz Haindel, High School Teacher (20 years)

"Pray for strength to leave my own aches and pains at home so I can give my best to my class and for my students to have teachable spirits."

Pat Wood, First-Grade Teacher (25 years)

"Pray for your child's bus driver to have concentration as she drives. We deal with a lot of things at once—traffic jams, mechanical failures, inconsiderate drivers, weather conditions, and rowdy kids. If the kids have a bad day at school, they bring it on the bus with them. Pray for us to have patience on the bad days."

Carol Loyd, Bus Driver

"Pray that teachers can love the unlovable child. That we can see in each child the unique value God has placed there and help him see it, too. That we can discipline them fairly and in love. That they'd know we have their best interest at heart. Pray that God will give teachers creative ideas that will engage the students."

Melissa Patrick, Second-Grade Teacher

"Parents can pray that the kids will feel secure and loved at school. Pray that teachers can see each child as an individual, and that the kids will see Christ's love reflected in us."

Maureen Gaddy, Preschool Director

"Please pray that we'll never stop seeking God's guidance, that even at Christian schools we won't take for granted that, just because we're Christians, we'll always know what to do. You can pray that, at the end of the day, we'll have something left to give to our own family, that we can balance our time well between school and home."

Maggie Miller, Elementary School Assistant Principal

"Pray that God will place kids in my class who need to be here—kids I need to minister to. Pray that I can find opportunities to share parts of the Bible within my public school history lessons. Many of my students live in bad situations, making them doubt the existence of a loving God; boys and girls who buy into the lies about sex and drugs for acceptance and to be cool. Pray that I'll be able to minister to them and break that cycle in their lives."

Gini Foreman, Junior High Teacher

"You know the old saying, 'If Mama ain't happy, ain't nobody happy.' The same goes for your child's teacher. Pray for him or her to have good health and wake up feeling the strength to meet the special demands of the students. If they're having a good day, your child probably will, too."

Paula Powell, High School Vocational Trainer

"I'd ask my parents to pray for harmony in the classroom, that the kids can get along and encourage each other, not tear each other down. We teachers can use some prayers to deal with the politics that come with teaching. Pray that we can offer the kids what we have to give them without getting bogged down in bureaucracy."

Nick Mitchel, High School English Teacher

"I'd ask them to pray for a peaceful atmosphere in the classroom and a calm spirit in me. Our kids come from different backgrounds and are going through different things at home. Pray for us to be sensitive to that."

Maria Toussaint, Preschool Teacher

"Pray that every adult on your child's school campus—from principal to janitor to the man who cuts the grass—has the best interest of the students at heart. Pray that we are able to see every child as having the potential to become an outstanding, contributing member of his community and treat them accordingly."

Cindy Clark, High School Special Education Teacher

If you're committed to praying for the workers at your child's school, why not take a minute to jot a note to tell them so? While you're at it, ask them to tell you what they would like you to pray for.

Lesson 4

The Practical Helper

READ | [1 Corinthians 2:11-13](#)

Welcome to the In Touch Devotional. In the New Testament's original language, the Greek word *paracletos* is used for Jesus' description of the Holy Spirit. ([John 14:16, 26; 15:26; 16:7](#)) This term refers to an individual who is summoned to provide assistance to another person. Its common usage indicates the practical nature of the Spirit's mission in the believer's life.

The Holy Spirit is the Christian's helper in prayer. Knowing the Father's mind and will, the Spirit intervenes accordingly. He petitions God on our behalf in keeping with the Lord's plan for us. When we pray, the Spirit brings our petitions to Jesus. The Son then lays them before our heavenly Father on the basis of His own shed blood. God responds, and Christ communicates the message to the Spirit, who interprets it for us.

Apart from the Holy Spirit, believers would be without guidance on the journey through life. The Spirit is our interpreter, who makes clear the mind of Christ. He is also our teacher, who instructs us by illuminating the meaning of Scripture. The Spirit of God also uses circumstances, other people, and His promptings to lead us. After praying for direction, have you eventually had a sense of assurance accompanied by knowledge of what to do? When that's the case, the Spirit has been at work.

God loves His children far too much to leave their circumstances to chance or to the whims of human nature. Instead, He has provided a Helper to assist us in praying, understanding the Scriptures, and living a godly life.

Lesson 5

Wholly Surrendered

LUKE 1:26-38

Do you know what it costs the kingdom of God when we live with a restricted commitment to Christ? Countless souls, useful Christian workers, and prayers that would have been answered. ([James 4:3](#))

We are wholly surrendered to God . . .

- When we say, "No matter what I want, Lord, Your will be done." We start by acknowledging His right to be in control of our lives. Then we follow, even if He leads us where we don't want to go.
- When we stop bargaining with God. Our prayers often sound like this: "Lord, I am willing to do what You say if only You first help me [or heal me, or give me success in this venture . . .]" As sinners condemned by our own nature and helpless to save ourselves, we have no basis for negotiation with God. He redeemed us with the shed blood of His Son and made us part of His family. Our allegiance to Him is to be wholehearted.
- When we let go in order to receive from the Lord. Absolute surrender means we willingly relinquish our independence, self-determination, and personal preferences. (Matthew 10:39) By doing so, we position ourselves for an outpouring of God's maximum blessing, full usefulness in His service, and deep fellowship with Him.

Because we are an open channel ready for God's use, nothing obstructs the flow of His Spirit through our life and work. We will receive more than we ever give up. What has God brought to mind that you have not truly yielded to Him? Won't you kneel down and surrender it today?

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ARTICLES FROM THE IN TOUCH MINISTRIES WEBSITE
WWW.INTOUCH.ORG
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