

## Praying Together – Lesson 7

### ❖ Power of Synergy

Get a ball of wool, and break off about a metre / yard for each couple. Give to the woman. Ask each woman to break the piece of wool into 3 lengths, roughly equal. When she has finished ask her to lay them side by side together like this III and then give them to her husband. Ask him to hold them together and break them. This may be possible, but it will give him a challenge! Read the scripture Ecclesiastes 4:12 about the cord of three strands that is not easily broken. Describe how we can have some power in prayer alone, but together and with God we are much more powerful.

### ❖ Praying in the Spirit or English

When describing how prayers in English can be manipulative give some mock examples. e.g.

Husband (with eyes shut and hands clasped together)

“Dear Lord, please make (wife’s name) a better cook. Please help her to listen more carefully to her mother when we go around there, and remember what ingredients need to go into the recipe. AMEN”

Wife (with eyes shut and hands clasped together)

“Dear Lord, please help (husband’s name) to enjoy doing DIY just like my Dad and give him the patience to be able to do it well. AMEN”

Choose subjects that are appropriate to you so your group know you are talking about yourselves and are teasing each other.

### ❖ Prayer Journal

Quote some examples from your prayer journal so couples can see the progress of praying for something, to seeing the answers.

### ❖ Mutual Prayer Concerns

Use personal examples of things that only affected one of you, but then became so big that both of you prayed for the issue.

### ❖ Making time to pray.

Use a large transparent container, two large objects (e.g. some baking potatoes) and several other types of smaller objects (e.g. marbles, some Lego bricks, rice etc).



At the group talk about the large container representing a whole day's worth of time. Put in all the rice that represents the basics of live such as washing yourself, washing up, time on the phone. The other objects can represent things like time at work, leisure time, eating time, quality time with spouse and family etc. Put these in the container one by one describing what they represent. By this time the container should be nearly full. Then get out the potatoes and say you mustn't forget them as they represent your prayer and Bible study. Try and fit them into the bowl. They won't fit. This is because you left them to last, after all the other things.

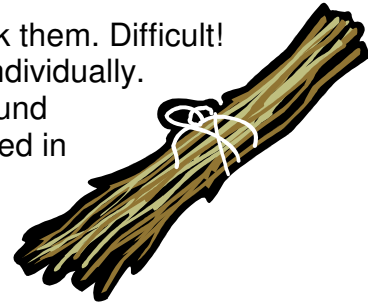
Take everything out of the bowl and put the potatoes first, then the small objects, lastly the rice. You will then show the couples that if you put the prayer and Bible study first (in priority, not necessarily at the beginning of the day) there will be time for everything else to fit in too.

(You need to measure the rice out carefully beforehand so it works both ways).

- ❖ Make a poster of bricks with mortar between. Label the bricks with the names of the other lessons and label the mortar 'prayer'. Prayer is the mortar that holds all the other lessons together.



- ❖ Have a helium balloon with a paper cup hanging with ribbon from it. Fill the cup with a small amount of rice, representing prayer. Release the ribbon with the rice. This represents prayers going up to God (practice first).
- ❖ Tie a bundle of sticks together. Try and break them. Difficult! Now, untie the bundle and break the sticks individually. The sticks can't be broken when they are bound together. Satan can't break us if we stay united in prayer.



### Quotes:

*“Before you speak, listen. Before you write, think. Before you pray, forgive. Before you quit, try.”*

'Your Daily Walk through the Bible' by Bruce Wilkinson p.318

*“Satan hinders prayers, but prayers also hinders Satan”.*

'Your Daily Walk through the Bible' by Bruce Wilkinson p.401

*“When you pray, make sure your will is neutral so God can shift it.”*

'Your Daily Walk through the Bible' by Bruce Wilkinson p.395

*“You can expect God to intervene when you have taken time to intercede.”*

'Your Daily Walk through the Bible' by Bruce Wilkinson p.140

*“We cannot expect to live defectively and pray effectively.”*

'Your Daily Walk through the Bible' by Bruce Wilkinson p.112

*“Waiting for an answer to prayer is often part of the answer.”*

'Your Daily Walk through the Bible' by Bruce Wilkinson p.13



*“Prayer is not so much submitting our needs to God but submitting ourselves to Him.”*

'Your Daily Walk through the Bible' by Bruce Wilkinson p.149

*“God still speaks to those who take time to listen.”*

'Your Daily Walk through the Bible' by Bruce Wilkinson p.172

*“Prayer is the mightiest of all weapons that created natures can wield.”*

'Your Daily Walk through the Bible' by Bruce Wilkinson p.184

*“In prayer, while we seek in appearance to bend God's will to ours, we are in reality bringing our will to His.”*

'Your Daily Walk through the Bible' by Bruce Wilkinson p.185

*“If our prayers do not change us, then we do not pray aright.”*

'Your Daily Walk through the Bible' by Bruce Wilkinson p.188

*“Prayer is a shield to the soul, a sacrifice to God, and a scourge to Satan.”*

'Your Daily Walk through the Bible' by Bruce Wilkinson p.192

*“Praise is simply letting off esteem.”*

'Your Daily Walk through the Bible' by Bruce Wilkinson p.198

*“Praise is a soul in flower.”*

'Your Daily Walk through the Bible' by Bruce Wilkinson p.207

*“How rare it is to find a person quiet enough to hear God speak.”*

'Your Daily Walk through the Bible' by Bruce Wilkinson p.266

*“God will only answer when you come close enough to hear”.*

'Your Daily Walk through the Bible' by Bruce Wilkinson p.267

*“A lot of kneeling keeps you in good standing with God.”*

'Your Daily Walk through the Bible' by Bruce Wilkinson p.279

*“Do not have your concert first and tune your instruments afterwards. Begin the day with God.”*

'Your Daily Walk through the Bible' by Bruce Wilkinson p.314