

Daily Personal Prayer Pattern

Example outline of an effective daily quiet time

Times are samples and not rigid requirements. This prayer pattern is generally embraced after you have read and meditated on God's Word.

Begin with a period of praise and thanksgiving (Spend a few minutes focusing on the glory and greatness of God. Hallow His holy name.) Psalms 100:4-5

- Take a few moments to thank God for past, present, and future blessings
- Spend some time praising God for who He is (His characteristics and names)
- Take time to just freely worship and adore Him from your heart

Continue with confession and repentance (5 - 15 minutes) Proverbs 28:13; Psalms 66:18; Psalms 139:23-24

- Be sure to utilize the **Biblical Tool for Confession & Repentance on page 2**, which is designed to search all areas of your life with God's Word
- Ask God to search your thoughts and attitudes
- Carefully examine your speech
- Ask God to thoroughly search your relationships
- Confess any sins of commission and be sure to forsake the sins God reveals
- Confess any sins of omission and make a definite commitment to obedience
- Resolve to fully repent of any known sin of thought, word or deed (Be specific)
- Ask God to fill you with the Holy Spirit

Move into Prayers of Personal Petition (10 - 15 minutes) Phil 4:6, Matt 6:33

- Pray for the development of character and holiness. Pray through the 9 components of the fruit of the Holy Spirit or other character words (Matt 5:1-12; Gal 5:22-23)
- Pray for your ministry and service to God (be very specific in your prayers)
- Pray for any physical, emotional, spiritual or financial needs

Proceed with Prayers of Intercession (10 - 20 minutes) Ezek 22:30, 2 Tim 2: 1-4

- Pray for needs of family and friends
- Pray for your pastor and church
- Pray for specific needs of the pastor search
- Pray for missionaries and mission efforts
- Pray for revival and spiritual awakening in your church and nation

In intercession, be as specific as possible. Focus on only 2 or 3 categories per day. Thoroughly praying for every category could take hours. The guiding principle is close sensitivity to the Holy Spirit. True prayer is a Spirit-guided relationship, not a ritualistic formula.

Conclude with a Time of Scripture Meditation and Listening for God's Voice

- Reflect on key points of your scripture reading and prayer time
- Assess God's impressions on your heart & write key impressions in a daily journal
- End your time with thanksgiving for God's grace, mercy and power

Again, the above pattern is a general guideline, not a rigid program. As you allow God's Spirit to guide, you will be amazed at the ways He will direct you day by day. It is awesome to pause and remember that Almighty God desires a very close personal relationship with you. If we're willing, He enables us to walk with Him in deep spiritual intimacy. May God help us settle for nothing less than the glorious reality of His manifest presence!

Biblical Tool for Confession & Repentance

James 4:8a Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you.

Do I have any thought patterns I need to confess and forsake? Rom. 12:1-2; 2 Cor. 10:3-5 **Look at: unclean thoughts, worldly thinking, anger and malice, doubt and fear, bitterness, pride, self reliance, etc.**

Do I have attitudes I need to confess and lay before God? Rev. 3:15-16; 1 Pet. 5:5; Heb. 11:6; Eph. 4:2 **Look at: lukewarmness, pride, jealousy, prejudice, unbelief, unkindness, worldliness, materialism, a critical harsh spirit, etc.**

Do I have sins of speech I need to confess and forsake? Eph. 4:29; 5:4; Col 3:9; 1 Cor. 10:10; 1 Thess. 5:18 **Look at: inappropriate slang speech, cursing, off-color jokes, exaggeration, lying, complaining, bitterness, divisive speech, harsh, critical or judgmental speech etc.**

Do I have damaged or wrong relationships I need to address? Matt. 5:23-24; Matt. 6:14-15; Eph. 5:24-25; 5:33; 6:1-4 **Look at: people I've offended, people who've offended me, inappropriate relationships, fathers who fail to act as the spiritual head, wives rejecting God's patterns for women, neglecting parents, etc.**

Do I have sinful actions or habits I need to confess and forsake? Eph. 5:5 & 5:12; 1 Cor. 3:16-17; 2 Cor. 6:17; Ex. 20:2-3; Mal. 3:8-10; 1 John 3:20-22 **Look at: immorality, pornography, abusive habits against my body, idolatry (putting others ahead of God), any form of gambling, dabbling in horoscopes or new ageism, spiritual compromise, violating my conscience, any form of harshness or mistreatment of others, etc.**

Have I sinned against God by sins of omission? John 15:4-5; Eph. 4:8; Rom. 6:14; Heb. 4:1; James 1:23-24 **Look at: failure to regularly pray and read God's Word, failure to witness in daily life, neglecting to discover and use my spiritual gifts, refusing to press forward into spiritual victory, disrespecting Christian leaders, failing to pursue holiness, lack of spiritual hunger, failure to tithe and give offerings, failure to generously support missions, failure to work to improve my marriage, etc.**

Have I refused to die to self or in any way relied on my own strength? Matt. 16:24-25; John 12:24; Prov. 17:3; 2 Cor. 12:9-10. **Look at: Has God told you to do something, yet you've ignored Him? Is there an area where you insist on your way over God's? Are there areas in your life where you try to ignore God's conviction? Do you rejoice in your trials or view them only as impositions? Do you seek to let God prune your life or do you resist Him? Have you in any sense relied more on your own strength than on prayer and the Holy Spirit? Are you in any way relying more on human reasoning than fervent prayer and deep sensitivity to God?**