

3.5 INTENTIONAL DISCIPLESHIP

Online Prayer Articles

Connecting with the Heart of the Master Planter – Spiritual Principles of Brokenness, Prayer, Fasting, and Spiritual Warfare

Theme: Church Planting places you in the spiritual battle for the hearts and lives of people.

Objective: To focus on the Master Planter in prayer as we connect with His Spirit, gain His heart and rely on His power for the church He is calling us to plant.

Chapter Goals:

1. You will learn the need for prayer.
2. You will learn to prioritize prayer.
3. You will learn how to recruit a prayer team.
4. You will learn how to involve the whole church in prayer.
5. You will learn how to seek God's miracles for your new church.
6. You will learn how to develop good systems for prayer mobilization.
7. Your church will learn how to properly engage in this battle.

This workbook style resource was developed by the Covenant Church's Department of Church Growth and Evangelism as a resource for Church Planters. It also provides excellent insights for all pastors and churches. Find the complete chapter at:

http://www.churchplantingwiki.com/index.php/wiki/Chapter_2_-_Prayer_and_Brokenness/

GROWing Closer to God by Doreen Olson

Several years ago, I began to experience great hunger for learning more about prayer. But the more I read about it, the less I felt I knew. At last, it became evident that what I needed was not more information, but more experience. Because prayer is simply relationship with God, I was desiring a more intimate and consistently experienced relationship with God....

Building any relationship into a healthier, more vital one requires time and patience. It is my prayer that you will experience a hunger and thirst for God, and will engage the disciplines for growing closer to God. Because out of the strength of that relationship we bring glory to God, and extend Christ's kingdom.

In this booklet Doreen introduces several different prayer disciplines. Find a free downloadable copy of the booklet in the Ministry Idea Exchange (Mix): <http://www.covchurch.org/idea-exchange/files/2011/11/GROWing-Closer-to-God.pdf>

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Guide to Prayer from Decorah Covenant Church

Don Holmertz, pastor

The DCC “Guide to Prayer” is a prayer tool from the monastic tradition for today’s Christian. These daily prayer are designed to shape the rhythm of life around which other activities can take their proper place.

Find a copy of this prayer brochure on the Decorah Covenant Church’s News and Resources page:

<http://www.decorahcovenant.org/resources/>

The Role of Prayer in Spiritual Awakening

By J. Edwin Orr

Dr J. Edwin Orr was a leading scholar of revivals who published detailed books about evangelical awakenings. His research discovered major spiritual awakenings about every fifty years following the great awakening from the mid-eighteenth century in which John and Charles Wesley, George Whitefield and Jonathan Edwards featured prominently. Originally given at the first National Prayer Conference, Dallas, TX, 1976, sponsored by Campus Crusade for Christ this article provides an excellent documentation of the power of prayer in changing the world.

Find a copy of this article at http://www.jedwinorr.com/prayer_revival.htm.

Ways to Pray in a Board Meeting

by Charles M. Olsen, The Alban Institute

I often hear the term book-end prayers used to refer to the perfunctory way in which prayer can be scheduled and offered at the beginning and close of a church board meeting. It traditionally separates out the spiritual aspects of the meeting from the “business at hand.” The business part of the meeting still resembles the process that one would typically see outside the church—an emphasis on efficiency, a reliance on “reasoned” judgments, and a structure based on parliamentary rules, all ordered by a litany of reports with recommendations and decisions voted by majority rule.

If we redefine the activity of the people of God serving on church boards and see it as worshipful work, then prayer will no longer be relegated to a book-end position; instead, it will saturate the agenda and thread its way throughout the meeting.

Read the complete article here <http://www.alban.org/conversation.aspx?q=printme&id=6898>