

We hope that you find these discussion/prayer guides helpful as you grow deeper in your faith at home. This guide is simply a tool for you to use, so please use it in a way that best fits your home environment. You may find it best to work through the passages and guided prayer opportunities in order, or you may choose to focus only on some of them. Either way, we hope this helps you grow stronger in your faith as you seek and follow the Lord together.

A model of prayer to consider (ACTS)

As we start this new series on prayer, we would like for you to consider using the ACTS model of prayer as you pray in your homes together. Here is a brief look at what that could look like:

A = Adoration (Begin by praising God for who He is.)

C = Confession (Continue by confessing your sin to God, recognizing your need for forgiveness.)

T = Thanksgiving (Give thanks to God for what He has done for you.)

S = Supplication (Bring your requests to God, both for yourself and for others.)

As you use this model of prayer, note the order. As Christians, it is far too easy to start with asking God for things (supplication) without truly recognizing who He is and what He has done (adoration and thanksgiving), and also who we are as we come into His presence (sinners who need to confess).

"Why do we pray?"

We pray because God invites us to pray...and He is available.

Read Jeremiah 29:11-13 & Psalm 32:5-7. Spend time praying together using these prompts as a guide:

1. How are you led to respond in praise to God knowing that he allows himself to be found by you and who listens to you? Praise him for those things!
2. Are there areas of your heart that are seeking something other (or more) than God? Confess those things to him and proclaim your desire to pursue him with all your heart.
3. How have you seen God shelter you and preserve you? How have you seen his plans bring welfare and hope? Express your thanks to God for these things!
4. Where do you see the need for God to provide welfare, hope, and deliverance? Make those requests known to God and trust him with them.

We pray because God is sufficient to meet our needs.

Read Hebrews 4:14-16 & Psalm 73:21-26. Spend time praying together using these prompts as a guide:

1. How does knowing that Jesus is our great high priest who is the strength of our heart lead you to praise God? Praise him for that!
2. What are ways you have been tempted and fallen into sin this week? Draw near to the throne of grace with confidence and confess these things to our high priest and find grace!
3. Give thanks to God for the grace he has given us, that we can continually be with him in our times of need. Thank him for the counsel he guides us with.
4. Who in your life does not know the sufficiency of God? Where in your own life are you not fully resting in the sufficiency of God? Ask God that he would change our hearts so that we can say, "there is nothing on earth that I desire besides you."