

# INFLUENCER.

Jesus' counter cultural guidebook

Guideline #6 Jesus' influence was fueled by PRAYER. Period!

## 1) Key times Jesus prayed

- During unusually **BUSY** days Luke 5:16
- Before big **DECISIONS** Luke 6:12-13
- During seasons of **STRUGGLE** Luke 22:41-44

## 2) Prayer **ALIGNED** Jesus' heart! Isaiah 11:3-4

- *'And He will not judge by what His **EYES SEE**,*
- *'Nor make a decision by what His **EARS HEAR**'*
- *'But with **RIGHTEOUSNESS** He will judge the poor,'*
- *'And decide with **FAIRNESS** for the afflicted of the earth;'*
- Prayer aligned Jesus' heart with the Father's **HEART** and **PLAN**
- Meditative, **DISCERNING** Prayer aligns our heart with Jesus' heart

## 3) How do I pray? A.C.T.S.

- A = ADORE** 1 Chronicles 16:29
- C = CONFESS** 1 John 1:9
- T = THANKFUL** Psalm 91:1
- S = SUPPLY** Philippians 4:6

Auburn Grace Community Church – August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021

Life Group Discussion Questions – August 1, 2021

**Mark 1:35** *And in the early morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house, and went away to a secluded place, and prayed there for a time.*

### DISCOVER

1. Did you grow up knowing the Lord's Prayer? Was it something that had meaning for you or did you just recite it out of memory? Was there anything different in you after you prayed it?
2. Describe your daily conversations with God. What kinds of things do you regularly pray for? How would you rate yourself as a listener in these exchanges?
3. What is the best answer to prayer you have ever received? How did your relationship with God change as a result?

### EXPLORE

1. What is the purpose of prayer? If God knows all our needs, why should we pray about them? If Jesus is God, why did Jesus need to pray? What were some of the benchmarks of His prayer life?
2. Read Matthew 7:7-12. List the take-aways from this passage. What do we learn from Jesus' illustration? How does seeing yourself as a "needy child" encourage you to pray? Why is it so difficult to confess such need?
3. Read Matthew 26:36-46. Three times Jesus prayed that the Father's will would prevail. If the disciples were sleeping, how do we have an account of this? Why is this important?
4. For many, prayer is a private matter that takes effort and may even make us uncomfortable. How can we make our prayer life a delight to the Lord?

### EXPERIENCE

1. What do you think is God's "agenda" for you? Why do we tend to put our priorities first over God's as we pray? What are some of the ways we can make God's priorities our priorities?
2. Pastor Phil shared the ACTS 4-step prayer model with us. Why are these presented in this order? Which one do you think has the greatest priority? At what point would you say that your heart is sufficiently aligned with God's?
3. Share with your Life Group some of the needs you currently have. Ask them to help you pray those needs.

### PRAY/ACTION

Pray... As a group, pray the Lord's Prayer together, not just to recite it, but to say it with heart-felt verse-by-verse meaning. (see Matthew 6:9-13) Then pray for the needs of the group mentioned earlier.

Action... Partner with one other group member to pray daily over for the following week. Connect (phone, text, email) with them three times during the week. Pray Matthew 6:33 over them, asking God to make His will, their will. Don't forget to pray for their needs, too.



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## Counter Cultural Guidebook

Live a life of influence  
by following the  
example of Jesus.



# DEEP

**Discover.** WHAT WAS SAID? WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

**Explore.** HOW DO THE PRINCIPLES TAUGHT RELATE TO MY LIFE?

**Experience.** WHEN HAVE I EXPERIENCED THIS? OR HOW CAN I?

**Pray.** WHAT ARE YOU GRATEFUL FOR FROM THIS TEACHING?

1. **DISCOVER.** CONTEXT

Review the main points from the message. Who were the people involved? What was the setting or situation?

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2. **DISCOVER.** WHAT DID YOU LEARN ABOUT JESUS?

What characteristic about Jesus stood out to you?

What passages or points from the message support your statement?

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What was Jesus doing? or what has He done? What passages or points from the message support your statement?

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What is important to Jesus? What does He value?  
What passages or points from the message support  
your statement?

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3. **DISCOVER.** HOW SHOULD YOU LIVE BASED ON WHAT WE HAVE LEARNED?

Was there anything in the message that caused you to be  
concerned? What do you need to know or be aware of?

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Were there any instructions in the message? Is there anything  
you need to do?

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Were any promises spoken about that you can count on?  
What were they?

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4. **EXPLORE.** How does this message relate to you personally?  
Why do you think it's important?

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**EXPERIENCE.** How have you experienced what was taught?  
If you don't have an experience that relates, what can you  
do to gain experience?

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5. **PRAY.** What are you grateful for from this teaching?

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**INFLUENCER.**

Priorities

Allegiance

Perspective

Attitude

Strength

Fuel