



All Prayer Is Good; But Some Prayer Is Better | Doug Wekenman | 08.23.2025  
Weekly Study

## SHARE

As group members settle in, take a few minutes to check in with everyone and see how their lives are going. Share an exciting story from this week, your highs and lows, an answered prayer, or something you're struggling with. If someone is really struggling, rally the group around them and take a few moments to pray over them.

- **Share a high, a low, and something interesting from this week.**

## GROW

Welcome to week three of our series, *Can We Talk?*—a journey into the heart of prayer and why it matters so deeply in our relationship with God.

Prayer is not just a spiritual practice; it's the lifeline of our faith—the way we connect with the God who loves us. Yet so often we hold back. Maybe we don't feel worthy. Maybe we don't think we're "good" at praying. Maybe we stick to surface-level words because we're afraid of getting it wrong.

The truth is, God isn't looking for polished or perfect prayers—He's looking for real and honest ones. James 5:16 tells us, "The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results." Our confidence in prayer doesn't come from fancy words or from how we performed last week; it comes from what Jesus has already done for us.

This week, Pastor Doug reminded us that all prayer is good—but some prayer is better. As we grow, we're invited to move beyond quick, casual prayers into deeper, bolder, and more specific conversations with God. Not because He needs eloquence, but because He wants intimacy.

So wherever you find yourself today—whether prayer feels natural or awkward, strong or weak—know this: God wants to hear from you. And as we learn to pray with boldness, faith, and specificity, we'll begin to see the incredible ways He moves in us and through us.

**Read Psalm 27:7-8, Philippians 4:6-7**

- **What were some major takeaways from this week's message? Explain.**
- **How does your heart respond to God's question, "Come and talk with me?"**
- **Doug mentioned that "when God says 'Can we talk?', it is never to condemn you. It is always to connect with you." How does this perspective change your approach to prayer?**
- **"How does the way you view God's character and His love for you shape the way you hear His voice?" What is His tone towards you? Explain.**

**M O V E**

Stepping into prayer often begins with surrender—laying down the lies and barriers that keep us from drawing near to God. For many of us, those barriers appear as feelings of inferiority, intimidation, or insignificance. Sometimes we feel unworthy, but our sin doesn't keep us from God—Jesus made sure of that on the cross.

At other times, we feel intimidated, as if we need special words or a spiritual résumé to be taken seriously. Yet Scripture reminds us in James 5:16 that the prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective, and in Romans 8:15 that we've been adopted as God's children—free to call Him "Abba, Father."

And still other times, we wrestle with insignificance, believing our needs are too small to bring before Him. But James 4:2 tells us plainly, “You do not have because you do not ask.” Nothing is too small for the heart of your Father. When we surrender these lies, we discover the freedom to pray with boldness, honesty, and childlike trust—confident that God hears, cares, and responds.

- **What holds you back from an intimate prayer life with God? Inferiority, intimidation, or insignificance? Something else?**
- **Discuss the statement, "bold prayers honor God, and God honors bold prayers." What might be holding you back from praying more boldly?**
- **What are some practical steps we can take to move from 'immature' prayers to more 'mature' prayers, as Doug suggested?**

**Read Genesis 32:24-29, James 4:2**

- **“When you read Jacob’s determination in Genesis 32:24-29 and James’ reminder in 4:2, what do these verses reveal about the way you approach God in prayer right now?”**

## **P R A Y**

“Think back to the last time you prayed—what did you say? Now, consider how you could bring that same request to God again, but in a deeper, more mature way, using the principles Pastor Doug shared this week. Take a few minutes to pray with boldness, courage, and faith for what’s on your heart.”