



STUDY GUIDE

“ENTERPRISE: A CHRISTIAN LIVES TO PLEASE GOD”
“PRAYER: CHRISTIANS PRACTICE FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD”
(pg. 185-189)

What is the Main Takeaway?

Believers should have a strong desire to honor the Lord through every facet of their lives. This longing is heightened by communion with God through prayer.

What are the Potholes, the problems, the alternate views?

- 1) Christians will sometimes compartmentalize their lives wherein God only warrants focus in some sectors, but not others.
- 2) Some believers can get discouraged in praying due to a sense of unanswered petitions or an erroneous view of God's sovereignty.

What are some of the Gracious Answers for those who may push back?

- 1) We all need the reminder to submit all things to the rule of our King. Christians should be the most diligent workers, most creative thinkers, most ardent in their crafts because of the surpassing glory of God. *“So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.”* (1 Corinthians 10:31) *“And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.”* (Colossians 3:17)
- 2) A lack of praying according to God's written revelation will frustrate efforts to commune with Him. The fixed attributes and promises of God give the believer anchors in prayer to which right praise, confession, thanks, and supplications should be tethered. *“You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions.”* (James 4:3) His sovereignty, rather than discouraging prayer, incites greater trust in the One who has ordered all things to come to pass through His ordained means. *“He delivered us from such a deadly peril, and He will deliver us. On Him we have set our hope that He will deliver us again. You also must help us by prayer, so that many will give thanks on our behalf for the blessing granted us through the prayers of many.”* (2 Corinthians 1:10-11)

What Applications arise from this study?

Every believer, having been accepted in the Beloved, ought to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which he has been called, to be pleasing to the Lord. (Ephesians 4:1,

Colossians 1:10) This includes the area of prayer, in which our desires are continually aligned with His as we listen to His Word and speak it back to Him.

Sample questions could include: “Are there areas of your life that are not God-honoring? What do you need to do to change that?” “Is the substance of your prayers scriptural?” “Does God’s sovereignty hinder you or help you in your prayers?”

What are some Additional Resources?

<https://www.ligonier.org/learn/devotionals/pleasing-god-more-and-more>

<https://www.ligonier.org/learn/articles/what-biblical-stewardship>

<https://www.gty.org/library/bibleqnas-library/QA0006/what-is-the-purpose-of-the-lords-prayer>

<https://www.ligonier.org/learn/articles/if-god-sovereign-why-pray>