



SESSION 8 CHAPTER 4 THE WAYS OF THE ALONGSIDER

Pray

Does anyone have something from their Quiet Times that they wish to share?

We're in Chapter 4 of TWOTA this week. Did you notice which piece of the triangle was highlighted at the beginning of this week's material? Yes, 'R'.

The topic is a huge one - prayer. Yet we're really going to shrink the topic to something that is manageable. Let's begin down in the last paragraph. Would someone read the first two sentences in that paragraph?

How would you describe the prayer that Bill made when he requested 'one person a year to disciple for the rest of my life'?

In the next sentence Bill writes, "God has not disappointed me." How does modify your answer to the previous question?

Turning the page, who will read the top paragraph on page 38? What does this discussion tell you. What else? What else?

Moving over to Q 3, what does this question remind you of? (QT's)

Bill opens up the issues of prayer in Qs 4 and 5 to the topic of spiritual warfare.

How do you see prayer's value insofar as facing issues of spiritual warfare?

Looking at Q5 let's share some answers to the two parts of that question. Who will volunteer their answers first? Thanks. Who will offer a different answer? Thanks. Who else? Thanks. So what have we learned from these answers?

Q6 begins a transition in the main issues in this Chapter. First, what can you learn from Jesus' example about how to pray for people?

Now will someone read John 17: 13 - 19? Here we read how Jesus prayed for His disciples. How could this have application insofar as how you might pray for the person or people that you will someday disciple?

In Q7 Bill asks you to describe Jesus' motivation for praying. What words did you use to answer his question?

Q8 asks basically rewrites the same question, "Do you think those might serve us well when we pray for those we will be discipling?"

Bill then draws the comparison between what, why and how Jesus prayed to that of the apostle Paul. At the top of page 41, who wrote down at least four items of things Paul prayed for the people in his letter to the church at Ephesus? Who got six? Who got eight? Who got more than eight? List them for us.

Bill wants us to recognize two different levels of prayer. He distinguishes them as being either 'micro' or 'macro'. Micro prayers are specific to a specific need. Macro prayers he defines as 'lifting our faith to the eternal qualities that God wants to build into our lives.' Don't miss this point. In the expression of macro sized praying, one of the best ways to do this is to pray scripture. You can pray back what scripture tells us, especially when God makes a unilateral promise.

It is not mandatory to pray scripture; it is simply an option, and it is a VERY good one.

At the bottom of page 41 at Q11, he gives you the opportunity to write your own transition thoughts from the micro level to the macro level. You may or may not have prayed scripture references, but you probably prayed for qualities that are discussed in scripture. Let's hear a few answers to how you made these transitions.

ASK FOR VOLUNTEERS

The first prayer option I wrote is this: "Lord, increase in me my trust in your provision of all things I need." This is based on Luke 12: 22 - 31.

The second prayer option I wrote is this: "Lord, allow my brother to have faith in you throughout his life." This is based on Luke 17: 19.

The third prayer option I wrote is this: "Lord, help my daughter to remember at all times that she has your peace in both her spirit and her mind." John 14: 27.

At the top of p42 we need to look at the boxes and discuss them.

The VIM this week again differs from the previous chapters. Who will read them?

Are there any questions on their application to matters of prayer?

The last area relates to the Alongsider's Toolbox. In paragraph 3 look at Bill's issues. With those, let's follow up the main issues.

We have time for some personal stories. Who wants to share first?

Close in prayer.