**HANDOUT** Discipleship and Praying

**Rom 12:12** …Be constant in prayer **Eph 6:18** …Pray at all times.

**Col 4:2** …Continue steadfast in prayer. **1 Thess 5:17**…Pray without ceasing.

LOGICAL CONNECTION to make:

IF 🡪 We have new life, and we are to do this new life together 🡪

THEN🡪 Prayer is to be an integral part of our shared new life together.

Ie. Discipleship and praying together.

1. Prayer is a recognition of our **dependence** on God.

2. Prayer is an expression of our **confidence** in God.

3. Prayer is laying hold of God’s mighty and **strong** **arm**:

**Jer 32:17** Ah, Lord God! It is you who have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and by your **outstretched arm**! Nothing is too hard for you.

NOTES:

**A vision for Redeeming Grace Church growing into a praying church:**

**1.** Jesus said in [Matthew 6:6](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/Matt%206.6), “When you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.”

🡪 So, let us dream of Redeeming Grace with most if not all of our people daily finding a quiet place and time for

personal communion with God,

confessing sins,

thanking God for blessings,

praising him for his perfections,

asking for help in their life, and

interceding for others.

**2.** Peter said [1 Peter 3:7](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/1%20Pet%203.7), “Husbands, live with your wives in an understanding way, showing honor to the woman as the weaker vessel, since they are heirs with you of the grace of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered.”

🡪 So let us dream of a Redeeming Grace with our married couples praying out loud together for each other, and

for their marriage, and

for the children, and

for our church, and

for your 5 lost friends, your neighbors, and

the Smithsburg community to come

to know Jesus as Savior thru the gospel.

**3.** Paul said in [Ephesians 6:4](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/Eph%206.4), “Fathers . . . bring . . . up [your children] in the discipline and instruction of the Lord,”

🡪 Let us dream of a Redeeming Grace with

all of our families gathered to read the bible and pray so that

the smallest children to the young adults are learning

that prayer is an essential part of our life as a family -

all the while they are learning how to pray.

**4.** James said in [James 5:16](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/James%205.16), “Confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed,”

🡪 Let us dream of a Redeeming Grace with our

Grace Groups, and many deep friendships

are where -

people praying for each other—

praying for healing, for help,

for conflicts to be resolved, for lost loved ones,

for seemingly besetting sin,

for endurance in faith, and

where groups and friends are coming together to pray for

the mission of Redeeming Grace.

**5**. The leaders of the church said in [Acts 6:4](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/Acts%206.4), “But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word,”

🡪 Let us dream of a Redeeming Grace where

our admin meetings,

our ministry team leaders,

our elder meetings and

all special event and planning meetings

to not just hurry into the time with an opening prayer, but

linger with the Lord in prayer, and

soak the meeting in prayer, and

then return to prayer during the meeting, so that

the work of the meetings is done is by prayer.

**6.** From  [1 Corinthians 14:16](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/1%20Cor%2014.16), the bible expects us to pray out loud as a church and not just in solitude –

“If you give thanks with your spirit, how can anyone in the position of an outsider say ‘Amen' to your thanksgiving when he does not know what you are saying? 17 For you may be giving thanks well enough, but the other person is not being built up.”

In other words, God means for us to pray sometimes so that others can hear us and say “Amen!” and can be built up in faith by hearing what we pray.

🡪 So, let us dream of a Redeeming Grace with

regular prayer meetings that many people may attend so that

they can build each other up, and

we can be built up by each other’s prayers.

**7.** Finally, since the essence of worship is adoration & communion with God ([Matthew 15:8-9](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/Matt%2015.8-9)) –

🡪 Let us dream of worship services in which everyone is

deeply, passionately, joyfully, and

authentically engaged with God

in prayer all through the entire service—

praying as you **come**,

praying as you **sing**,

praying as you **listen**,

praying as you **fellowship** and

praying as you **go**.