

Best Year Ever Prayer

Hope Springs Eternal

8 Finally, all of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble. 9 Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. On the contrary, repay evil with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing. 10 For, "Whoever would love life and see good days must keep their tongue from evil and their lips from deceitful speech. 11 They must turn from evil and do good; they must seek peace and pursue it. 12 For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their prayer, but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil." 13 Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good? 14 But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. "Do not fear their threats; do not be frightened." 15 But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, 16 keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.

1 Peter 3: 8-16 (NIV)

Lord Jesus,

I pray that you would work in me that I might reflect you more.

I pray that you work for me that I may be blessed by you.

I pray that you work through me that I may be an instrument of your love and grace.

I give you permission to work in me, for me and through me according to your purpose

Amen

Notes

How to stay in touch with our Facebook and blog (and possibly win a prize)!

1. For **Facebook**, on your phone or tablet, it's pretty easy: just go to our page, Real Life Church, then click the little button with the thumbs up that says "like."
2. You'd think that would be all it took, but Facebook likes to make things challenging, so there's one more step if you want to make sure you actually get all of our updates. Unfortunately you won't be able to do this on mobile, so you'll have to do it when you get home, but when you view Facebook on the computer, you'll see that you can actually float your mouse pointer over that "like" button to get some more options. You want to click "get notifications." You know how when you check Facebook and there's that little globe icon up in the corner with that happy little red number to tell you how many Facebook things you have to check? Clicking "get notifications" will add Real Life updates to that section of your Facebook so you're guaranteed to see them. This step is vital because statistics show that without completing this, only 16% of you will actually see our updates in your newsfeed! That means you could miss important announcements, so it's really important that you do this.
3. Okay, final step. ***To officially enter the drawing***, leave a comment on our page! Comment on a recent post, leave a review to tell everybody how awesome you think we are, share a favorite verse, or just say hi!
4. If you have kids in Kidz Life or youth group, you'll want to get set up on those Facebook pages as well. We announce upcoming events and news on both pages, and if your child's MAP Book page happens to get lost during the week, you can get a replacement from the Kidz Life Facebook page. Follow those same steps on Real Life Kidz Life and Real Life Student Ministry pages.

Okay, now let's check out the blog.

1. First go to www.seekreallife.wordpress.com, or just go to our church home page, click Social Media, then click Blog.
2. Scroll down a little bit and look for the section on the right that says "Follow Us." Enter your email address, then tap or click the button that says Follow.
3. Look for an email confirming you're signed up, then click the link in the email to confirm. Without completing this step, you won't get blog posts sent to your email.
4. Now you're all set! To enter the drawing, leave a comment on any recent post or the 10,000 Reasons Project.

THE PURPOSE OF LIFE GROUPS

Life Groups exist to promote spiritual maturity and personal growth through meaningful relationships with Jesus and each other through the study of God's Word (Romans 8:29 & Hebrews 10:24-25).

Here's how we accomplish this in our community:

SHARE

Each week we'll take time to share what is happening in our lives. At first this sharing will include planned "sharing questions." But after the first few weeks, it will become more informal and personal as we feel more comfortable.

STUDY

Each week we'll study a section from God's Word that relates to the previous weekend's sermon or an appropriate personal growth topic. Our goal is to learn how to live out our Christianity in everyday life.

SUPPORT

Each week we'll learn how to take care of one another as Christ commanded (John 15:9-13). This care can take many forms such as prayer, encouragement, listening, challenging one another and meeting real needs.

SERVE

Spiritual growth is fostered not only by what we gain through the support and input of others, but also through service to others. The role each of us fills is important to the health of the church and for us to be the hands and feet of Jesus to the community in which we live (Ephesians 4:11-16). Throughout the quarter, it is our hope that you can find and/or be affirmed in the ways God has designed you to serve and make a difference in God's kingdom.