

Message: Crunch Time Prayers

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Luke 22:39-68

**Q: What do you do when a crisis hits?**

**A: Pray. . . How?**

**1. What I do before the crisis determines how much strength I will have in the crisis.**

- Know Jesus.
- Spend time with Jesus.

**2. To pray like Jesus, my prayers will be.**

- Brief.
- Brutally honest.
- Persistent.
- Humbly offered.

**Take heart and don't be discouraged by:**

- Giving thanks for the good in the midst of the bad.
- Look to Jesus, who He is and what He has done.

*Many of our Life Groups use this insert as a discussion guide throughout the week. We encourage you to take that next step in your journey with Jesus & His church by joining one today! [www.seekreallife.com/groups](http://www.seekreallife.com/groups)*

**Share your story**

What insight, question, or resolution did you discover from our time of worship together on Sunday? What is something or someone you'd like to thank God for as this session comes to an end?

*Remember, prayer is having a conversation with God. What do you talk to God the most about? Why?*

**Connect to God's story**

**Read Luke 22:39-46.**

*In this passage Jesus models prayer in the face of trials. What hinders you from praying with that same kind of honesty, humility, emotion and pain?*

Have you ever turned to God in desperate prayer? Why is it so valuable in those moments to trust the Lord's will above our own as the Lord responds to your prayer?

Both Jesus and his followers are praying on the Mount of Olives. Whose prayer experience do you relate to most – Jesus or His followers? Why?

Have you ever felt so grieved that you couldn't even pray? What did you do?

**Read Romans 8:26-28.**

How does the Holy Spirit help us in our weakness? Why is His work so vitally important (especially in the midst of our grief & pain)?

What does this passage say about the pressure we can feel from time to time to "get it right" when we pray? Why do you think we can still struggle in this area even if we know the Holy Spirit will help us in our weakness?

**Read 2 Corinthians 1:3-7.**

Have you ever had someone who was going through a lot actually give you comfort? How does being comforted and comforting others help us to endure the hard road ahead?

*Take a moment and talk to God about what is most troubling to you and allow Him to comfort you. As a group, share with each other what is troubling you so that you may comfort each other and then praise and thank God for the comfort we experience through Him!*

**And the Father who knows all hearts knows what the Spirit is saying, for the Spirit pleads for us believers in harmony with God's own will.**

**- Romans 8:27 (NLT)**

**My Prayer for 2019**

My Lord and Savior Jesus, thank you for your gift of grace to me. My soul hungers for you. I want to know you – not just intellectually, but relationally. I give you permission to tear down every false thought, every lie, and every stronghold the Enemy has established within me.

I will pursue my relationship with you with my whole heart. I will hold nothing back from you. I am open and willing to receive the good things you have planned for me.

I ask:

Work your good in me so that I might reflect you more.

Work your good for me so that I might receive all that you intend for me.

Work your good through me so that all around me, people will experience your love and goodness and be drawn to you.

I am open and ready for all you will do in, for, and through me.

I love you, Jesus.

Amen

**Together in prayer. 30 days of prayer.**

*As a church, let us come together in prayer:*

- Pray for a safe conclusion to the remodel construction.
- Pray for a strong community in Christ!
- Pray for wisdom in the opportunities that come our way, so we can use our resources and help those in need.
- Pray for open arms and compassion as we look forward to meeting new people, hearing new stories and welcoming all.
- Pray for ways in which we can be light to our community.
- Pray that we can reach out to others and serve as Jesus served.
- Pray for the peace of God that brings us joy in the good times and sustains us in difficult times.
- Pray for joy!
- Pray a prayer of gratitude for the architect, designers and contractors whose time and vision made RL2 a reality.
- Pray a prayer of gratitude for the construction workers and volunteers who made our remodel possible.