

My Prayer for You

Big Idea

When Pastor Chris planted Church of the Highlands, he envisioned pastoring a group of people who were living out the redemptive calling God placed on their lives. There are four steps that we need to take in order to prepare for that redemptive calling. First, we must (1) know God, and know Him personally. We build a personal relationship and develop intimate familiarity with God's voice and a desire to do his will. Next, we must (2) find freedom. To do this, we must cleanse our hearts from the issues of the past. Then, we must (3) discover purpose. We each have spiritual gifts and unique purposes given to us my God because we are a part of God's plan to touch the world. And finally, we must (4) make a difference. God has something specific for us to do, and we can find real joy in knowing that our lives are making a difference for eternity.

"I ask the God of our Master, Jesus Christ, the God of glory—to make you intelligent and discerning in knowing him personally; your eyes focused and clear, so that you can see exactly what it is he is calling you to do, grasp the immensity of this glorious way of life he has for you." – Ephesians 1:17-19 MSG

Discussion Questions

- It takes time for most of us to understand the concept of truly "knowing" God. Discuss what you think it means to know Him? What practical steps can you take this week to pursue knowing Him better in your everyday life?
- When Pastor Chris talked about freedom, he discussed cleansing our hearts from the issues of the past. Explain what that means to you and discuss the steps we should take to cleanse our hearts.
- Talk about a time when you were unsure of your God-given purpose. How did you feel? Discuss how knowing your purpose will empower you to carry out God's will more effectively.

Prayer Focus

Pray for God to draw near to you as you pursue Him. Ask Him to take you deeper in your relationship with Him. Seek his will for your next small group and ask Him to reveal any areas in your heart that remain hurt or clouded by the past. Ask God to reveal to you the spiritual gifts that he has placed inside of you, and ask Him to help you discover his divine purpose for your life.

Next Steps

Be water baptized. Get on the Growth Track. Join the Dream Team. Commit to pursuing God and his calling on your life with everything that you have.

Leader Tip

Make time to talk to each person/couple in your group one-on-one this week. Help them discover what step they can take to move one step closer to God.