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31 Days of Prayer: Day 1

Daniel Berk, Chicago, IL, USA — Sunday, 31 December 2017

Editor's note: Join disciples around the world in January as we devote ourselves to prayer and action. Each day, Disciples Today will publish a devotional from 31 Days of Prayer by Daniel Berk. Follow along on Facebook with your comments and prayer requests. We look forward to an amazing year as we seek God together!

Read Psalm 145 (NIV)

A psalm of praise. Of David.

Daily Devotional

If a life of prayer were something easily attained then wouldn't every Christian have a thriving and fruitful life of prayer? But for so many, this isn't the case. In my own life, prayer is something that so easily turns into an "as-needed" practice of mine.

- I'm busy.
- I have a lot of important things to do.
- Why waste time praying when I can go out and make an actual difference?
- God already knows what I'm thinking, why should I tell him anyway? Isn't that just redundant?
- God doesn't actually care what I'm going through.
- These problems aren't really "prayer problems."

Anyone else that finds it difficult to maintain a strong life of prayer might agree that these are all too common for the struggling-to-pray Christian. I'm sure this only hits the tip of the iceberg. We can become angry with God and not want him involved in a situation or decision-process. Maybe we've prayed the same thing over and over again and are tired of not observing a noticeable response.

Whatever the reason is for why you don't pray, this book is to remember (or discover!) the reasons we should pray.

Daily Challenge

Re-read the Psalm of prayer above. Read each verse individually, and pray them to God, but only if you are sincere. "I will exalt you, my God, the King;" is the first verse. Will you exalt God? Will you truly praise his name forever? Ask yourself questions about each statement. What glorious splendor do the people speak of that David refers to? What promises does God make that makes him trustworthy? As you read through the passage, allow God to change your heart, and ask him to increase your faith in the power of prayer.

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• Generational Lift Workshop Series

Disciples Today — Tuesday, 02 January 2018

In 2017, the Hampton Roads Church set out to interrupt inclinations of a generational drift as warned about in Judges 2:16-19. Leaders sought to raise faithful expectations of all generations living a life in Jesus through a teaching series entitled "Generational Lift." Throughout this series of inspiring lessons covering...

• Will 2018 Be the Year of Your OYC?

One Year Challenge — Friday, 29 December 2017

On Christmas Eve, many disciples on a One Year Challenge shared Christmas with friends who celebrated the holiday for the first time in their lives. In the weeks leading up to Christmas, disciples at this One...

• "THRIVE" Northeast US Conference July 20-22

The THRIVE Conference Coordinators Team, Boston, MA, USA — Saturday, 23 December 2017

We are so looking forward to gathering with thousands of you from the Northeast and around the globe to be inspired, equipped and empowered to THRIVE at the

• Good News as "Moonlight Helmsman" Grows in Popularity

Disciples Today — Tuesday, 19 December 2017

We previously published a news article about retired evangelist Rick Maule and his book Moonlight Helmsman. His goal to raise at least \$20,000 in sales from the book has been exceeded, and the Lord has...

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Join Daily Prayer Devotionals in January

Disciples Today

How can you make a difference in the world in 2018? By going to the source of all power, light and love. Join disciples around the world in January as we devote ourselves to prayer and action.



To help us unite together, on Monday, January 1, Disciples Today begins publishing a daily devotional on prayer from 31 Days of Prayer by Daniel Berk, a young author from the Chicago Church of Christ. We will also share sermons, book recommendations, and other quiet time material to help strengthen your prayer life.

Below is an excerpt from the introduction to 31 Days of Prayer to begin the series. And stay tuned for an exciting announcement about connecting with others in global prayer in 2018!

The goal of the series is to provide a platform for people young and old alike, whether spiritually mature or barely crawling in Christ, to ignite their flame inside for prayer, and the all-consuming power prayer has in our lives through God...Every single day has a scripture about prayer along with a small devotional. These two parts are then followed by the absolute most vitally important part of this entire book. No amount of reading, studying, learning, or the like can truly change your prayer life. The only thing that can improve your prayer life is praying, and every daily challenge includes a prompt for prayer. These prompts are created to help you get started with a specific topic or idea in your prayer for that day, but the hope is that you will also be learning throughout this book to pray consistently through the things that are important to God.

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• UPCOMING EVENTS

Spring Leadership Meetings

Orlando, Florida USA
March 19-23, 2018

International Campus Ministry Conference

Cincinnati, Ohio USA
July 5-8, 2018

2018 NE US Christian Conference

Providence, Rhode Island USA
July 20-22, 2018

Florida Discipleship Conference

Orlando, Florida USA
August 3-5, 2018

International Singles Conference

Phoenix, Arizona USA
August 30 - September 3, 2018

Central American Conference

Panama City, Panama
October 5 - 7, 2018

2020 World Discipleship Summit

Orlando, Florida USA
July 2-5, 2020

CONNECTING DISCIPLES IN
CHURCHES AROUND THE WORLD



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