



A Year of Personal Prayer Focus

PRAYING THE BIBLE

JULY

INTRODUCTION:

We are half way through the year, and yet, there is more to learn about praying the Bible. This month let us zero in on praying prayers of the Bible for a variety of topics. There is such a wealth of information and relevant examples from Scripture to help us broaden our understanding and strengthen our practice and disciplines of prayer.

FIRST FOCUS:

- No matter your country of origin or residence, there is usually a time to celebrate as a nation a day of independence, sovereignty, or founding.
- Daniel prayed a prayer over Babylon, his adopted country, that it is a great example of how to pray for one's home or adopted homeland.
- Read and adapt Daniel 9:1-9 to your particular circumstance. "O Lord, according to all your righteousness, I beseech you, let your anger and your fury be turned away..."

SECOND FOCUS:

- The blessing of God is to be desired. I Chronicles 4:9-10 is a requested blessing.
- The last phrase is very encouraging. Pray this with confidence.
- Pray this prayer of Jabez in your own words each day during this focus and allow yourself to dream with confidence about the answer to your prayer.

THIRD FOCUS:

- When you are faced with overpowering circumstances, pray the prayer of Jehoshaphat in II Chronicles 20:2-21.
- Meditate on this: "You are ruler of all the kingdoms of the earth. You are powerful and mighty; no one can stand against you!" (vs. 6, NLT)

FOURTH FOCUS:

- "Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name." David advises this in Psalm 103:1.
- Sometimes we need to pray in a way that blesses the Lord instead of asking for blessings. David had this kind of heart after God.
- Use David's prayer of thanksgiving in I Chronicles 29:10-20 to and a guide to help you "bless the Lord."
- Notice how he magnifies God's greatness and glory and try to do the same from your experience.

FIFTH FOCUS:

- Our great high priest, Jesus, prayed an amazing prayer for us in John 17.
- Pray portions daily of this magnificent chapter as a prayer and feel the heart of Jesus and His loving concern for His followers.

