



PRAY

MARKETPLACE MISSION TRIP: WEEK 2

WARM-UP

- Review how everyone did with the daily exercises from last week (Who are we?)
- A key takeaway from this *mission trip* is to get in the habit of being “on-mission” while we are at work.

PRAYER

Spend 10 minutes in small prayer groups.

- Exchange your *10 Most Wanted* cards
- Spend time praying for co-laborers

LESSON

Why do we pray? Prayer is silly unless God is almighty ([LUKE 1:37](#)), interested ([MATTHEW 10:29-31](#)), and active ([MATTHEW 6:25-30](#)). But because God is almighty, interested, active, and more, praying makes great sense!

All prayer is beneficial. However, there are three types of prayer that are particularly valuable as we interact with others everyday in the workplace.

1. “Here I Am!”

The first prayer is, “*Here I am!*” Six people in the Bible responded this way to God when He called them. Review the following verses and think about these stories and people. They were:

- Abraham (**GENESIS 22:1, 11**)
- Jacob (**GENESIS 31:11 and 46:2**)
- Moses (**EXODUS 3:4**)
- Samuel (**1 SAMUEL 3:4-11**)
- Isaiah (**ISAIAH 6:8**)
- Ananias (**ACTS 9:10**)

When you say *Here I am* in prayer each morning, you “punch in” and go to work with Jesus. He is active, working, and involved wherever you are today. He knocks on your door and the door of the people you will meet.

2. For Others

God has you in your workplace to serve others and treat them as more important than yourself. You show this by praying for them. If you're like most, your prayers might be selfish, praying for a new job or to make your present job better. Perhaps even the *get me out of here* prayer!

When you pray for others, you look for ways to join Jesus as He works in the lives of those around you. Even if you know very little about your co-worker, you can ask God to bless them and use you to make a difference in their life.

Ask someone to [READ 1 TIMOTHY 2:1-4](#)

3. Thanksgiving

One way we look different than others in the workplace is when we thank God for the not-so-good things that happen. Since God is active, interested, and almighty, we have a choice in trial and disappointment. We can complain and express our anger, or we can thank God **(1 THESSALONIANS 5:18)**.

Since we know He is in charge, thanking Him should be the logical response. But the truth is, we often find it difficult to break the complaining habit. We still want to be our own god and pass judgment on our circumstances. But ... when we exercise thanksgiving to God for *everything* that happens, God becomes a bit more visible because our lives are marked by a thankful, content heart.

GROUP DISCUSSION

- How often would you say you pray for people you see every day?
- What would you pray for if you thought anything was possible?
- Think about the people you regularly come in contact with. Who comes to mind? Take a few minutes and let God give you ideas. Don't forget servers and service personnel.
- How often would you say you pray for people *while you're talking* with them? What about before or after?
- Think about how you pray for yourself. How can you make those same prayers for your co-workers, customers, or vendors?

DAILY ACTION STEPS

DAY 1

Read Philippians 4:6-7, Revelation 3:20, and Isaiah 6:8

Ask God to show you how to do “everything by prayer.” Thank Him for knocking on your door, and then tell Him you’re here to do His will. Put yourself on the clock today. What does He want you to do? Will you do what He says? Say it: *“Here am I, Lord. Send me!”*

DAY 2

Read 1 Timothy 2:1-8

Today, pray for everyone you will interact with by name. Ask God to bless

them, and to make you aware of ways you can cooperate with Him as He blesses them. How does He want you to serve them? What can you do today? Do whatever comes to mind.

DAY 3

Read Matthew 6:5-15.

Pray again for the people on your calendar and near you at work. Ask God to guide you and change you as you pray.

What other information would help you pray more specifically? It could be that you need to know your coworkers or customers better. Make plans to ask.

DAY 4

Read Job 42:8 and 10

The Lord instructed Job to pray for his friends, and when he did God restored Job's fortune. Who have you forgotten to pray for? Ask God and pray for them. If anything comes to mind, write it down. And if not, keep praying until something does come to mind.

DAY 5

Read Exodus 15:22-25.

Who does God bring to mind when you pray? Is God asking you to pray for someone to make their situation better? Is He asking you to bless someone else? Ask God to make this obvious to you. What about your barista or mail

carrier or the janitor at work? Who else can you pray for? If God puts something in your mind while you're praying, that may be an answer.

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