

Week 9 | Prayer and Repentance

Foundational Passage: Luke 18:1–14

Big Idea: Prayer and repentance become consistent routines in our spiritual lives as we grow more Christlike.

I. PRAYER — LUKE 18:1–8

How should we pray?

Our praying should be fervent. (v. 7)

Our praying should be constant. (v. 7)

Our praying should be faithful. (v. 8)

How do we grow in prayer?

A. We grow in how we pray.

How we pray	Scripture
Boldly and confidently	Hebrews 4:16
Thankfully	Philippians 4:6
Fervently	James 5:16–18
Confessionally	James 5:16
Faithfully	James 1:6
Politically and Missionally	1 Timothy 2:1–4

B. We grow in when we pray.

When we pray	Scripture
At regular times during the day	Daniel 6:10
Before a long journey	Ezra 8:21
Through the night, as Jesus did	Luke 6:12
In the middle of a conversation	Nehemiah 2:4
Constantly	1 Thessalonians 5:17; Luke 18:1



C. We grow in <u>where</u> we pray.

Where we pray	Scripture
In your room alone	Matthew 6:6
At a graveside	John 11:41
With other believers	Acts 2:42
In the belly of a fish	Jonah 2:1

II. REPENTANCE — LUKE 18:9–14

A. What we learn about repentance

The Pharisee talks about <u>what he has done</u>. (vv. 11–12)

The tax collector talks about <u>what he is</u>. (v. 13)

B. What repentance requires

A. Repentance requires <u>humility</u>.

B. Repentance requires <u>a change in orientation</u>.

C. Repentance requires <u>acknowledging grace</u>.

Growing in repentance means responding to God as he reveals both sinful actions and neglected obedience. Keep turning toward him.

III. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Which part of prayer is hardest for you right now: persistence, confidence, or trust? What does Luke 18:1–8 show you about God?

2. Is there an area in your prayer life you are challenged to grow in? Consider one of the prayer tables for inspiration.

3. Read Luke 18:9–14. Where do you recognize the Pharisee's comparison or self-justification in your own heart?

4. What sinful action or neglected obedience is God bringing to your attention? What would turning toward him look like this week?

5. How can this group pray for and support your next step?