

SPEND DAILY TIME WITH GOD AS YOU READ, THINK, PRAY, + ACT.

2026 Focus: 12 Months of Prayer | **June:** Being Still Before God

Each month, journey through a different biblical model of prayer.

Day 1 [Daniel 9](#) | Grow in Prayer

So I turned to the Lord God and pleaded with him in prayer and petition, in fasting, and in sackcloth and ashes. Daniel 9:3

Daniel is in the fourth quarter of his life when he turns to pray. Now in his eighties, the lines under his eyes carry the legacy of his people's darkest years. He was only a teenager when Babylon conquered Israel, only a child when he was taken in chains to a foreign country. In the years that followed, he turned to God and saw him faithfully provide. God provided in the lions' den and kept Daniel safe through four different kings and two empires. Daniel's spiritual habit of prayer grew through each of these situations and seasons. Now, as he prays, he turns to the One who is familiar and good. He turns toward God.

We too can grow in prayer, no matter where we are in life. Whether beginning our journey with God or having followed him for decades, we can grow and deepen our prayer life with him. There are no hours to tally or mountains to climb. We can grow in prayer right where we are—in front of the sink doing dishes, in the car waiting for the kids to finish soccer practice, or leaving the office for the day. A rich prayer life is built along the path with God and his Word.

PRAYER DAY #36: Ask God to help you grow in prayer throughout your life, even after 50 Days of Prayer has ended. Ask that he will give you the desire to pray in every season.

How have you been growing in prayer throughout this 50 Days of Prayer challenge? We would love to hear. Please share a sentence or two with us [HERE](#).

Day 2 [Daniel 9:1-3](#) | Praying Scripture

In the first year of his reign, I, Daniel, understood from the Scriptures, according to the word of the Lord given to Jeremiah the prophet, that the desolation of Jerusalem would last seventy years. Daniel 9:2

While in exile, Daniel builds a consistent rhythm of time with the Lord. It is so consistent that everyone around him knows about his rhythm ([Daniel 6:10](#)). Daniel prays and meditates on Scripture three times a day. As an old man, he returns to the writings of the prophet Jeremiah. While reading, he understands God's promise to return Israel to their land. The exile will not last forever. So, he turns to the Lord in prayer. He prays Jeremiah's words and pleads with God to keep his promise ([Jeremiah 29:10-14](#)). His petition begins with his meditation on God's Word.

Prayer is a conversation with God that begins with Scripture. When we engage with God's Word, we remember his truth and character, and it shapes the content of our prayers. Consider our focus on the Lord's Prayer ([Matthew 6:9-13](#)). When we pray this prayer, we "hallow" or adore God. Our eyes move away from ourselves and toward him. Looking at him, we remember that his will is what creation longs for, and he is our ultimate provider. We are also reminded of his righteousness, which leads us toward repentance. Praying Scripture is an essential way to grow a vibrant prayer life.

PRAYER DAY #37: Respond today by praying Scripture, something like this: "Heavenly Father, great is your name. Let your kingdom come. Let your will be done. Let my life be marked by your grace, as I forgive others." Also, now is a great time to join the Ada Bible reading plan. Click [HERE](#) to stay connected on the YouVersion Bible App!

Day 3 [Daniel 9:4-11](#) | Seeing Clearly

The Lord our God is merciful and forgiving, even though we have rebelled against him. Daniel 9:9

Daniel's response to God's Word through prayer corrects his vision. He sees two distinct realities: God's holiness and Israel's rebellion. Even in his people's painful experience of exile, he recognizes God is keeping his covenant and inviting Israel to turn toward his love. He concedes to the truth that God is justified in his judgment for their rebellious hearts. He asks God to remember his promises and forgive his people of their sins. This prayer is an act of worship and confession that rightly orients his heart around God.

As we clearly see who God is and who we are, we respond with worship and confession. Like Israel, it is far too easy for us to fall into sin when we stop seeing God clearly. We can easily justify or dismiss our own rebellious hearts. Yet, when we return to him in prayer and see his goodness and experience his presence, we cannot help but worship him. Our worship resets our vision. No clearer is this reality felt than when we are reminded of the death and resurrection of Jesus. In Jesus, we see both God's love on display and the great cost of our sin. Only through his selfless act of love are we restored to God.

PRAYER DAY #38: Pray Daniel's words to worship and confess today: "God, you are a covenant-keeping God. I have sinned and done wrong. Please help me see you and my sin rightly, and restore me to you."

Learn more about Daniel and his prayer on this week's episode of the [Beyond the Weekend Podcast](#). Find it wherever you listen to podcasts or [watch on YouTube](#).

Day 4 [Daniel 9:17-19](#) | Seeking God's Honor

Now, our God, hear the prayers and petitions of your servant. For your sake, Lord, look with favor on your desolate sanctuary. Daniel 9:17

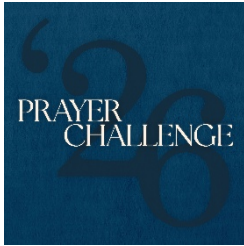
When Daniel prays for God to keep his promises, he takes a step off a well-worn path. Rather than pleading for God to restore Israel's glory so that they might be like the surrounding kingdoms, he does something different. He asks God to restore Israel for God's own glory. Daniel's desire is that through his answered prayer, God's name would be praised throughout the world. After years of praying, he has come to understand something important. God's honor and glory are more valuable than his own.

This is what it means to be an image bearer. As believers, we find our ultimate satisfaction in God's glory. It is how we were created to respond. However, like Israel, we can easily slip into praying for our own reputation and circumstances above God's honor and glory. To grow in prayer, we must intentionally choose God's reputation over our own. This is only possible when God changes our desires to match his. We learn this by

honoring him in our daily decisions and our words and actions. We can ask God to help us grow to choose him in how we spend our money and manage our time, talents, and relationships.

PRAYER DAY #39: Pray for God’s honor and glory rather than your own. Ask him to reveal one area where you’ve been more concerned about your reputation than his. Then pray this: “God, may you be honored in my _____.”

*We’d love to hear how God has moved in your life during the 50 Days of Prayer. **Please share any way you’ve seen him bring growth or change**—whether in your spiritual life, your family, a friendship, or a specific situation [HERE](#).*



Day 5 [Luke 5:16](#) | Jesus Withdraws to Pray

This year in Beyond the Weekend, journey through different biblical models of prayer—one each month. June’s focus is being still before God.

But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed. Luke 5:16

As Jesus’s popularity increases, more people press to get his attention and access his healing power. Despite the growing demands on his time, his devotion to the Father through prayer has stayed the same. As the crowds press in, Jesus withdraws to isolated places to pray. He is filled with compassion for people and deeply devoted to ushering in his kingdom upon this earth. Yet, this commitment does not keep him from extended times of solitude and prayer, where he dwells with and pours out his heart to his heavenly Father.

Few, if any, of us know the sort of press that Jesus faced throughout his public ministry. People were cutting actual holes through roofs to get to him (see Luke 5:17–26)! And yet, this persistent press did not keep him from faithfully being still before the Father in prayer. Jesus’s example should remind us of the importance of being quiet and still with God. He did not just flippantly wish for times of prayer. Rather, he scheduled such times and reoriented his days around being with the Father. If we are going to engage in similar rhythms of prayer and quiet, then we need to prioritize the way of life that Jesus himself practiced. Though life may get busy, it is our responsibility to carve out space and time to be still before God.

PRAYER DAY #40: We often fail to grow because we fail to plan. Establishing a plan for when and where you will spend time in prayer can help you grow in your prayer journey. Schedule time on your calendar to be still before God this week. Ask him for the strength, wisdom, and courage to faithfully engage such time.

How have you been growing in prayer throughout this 50 Days of Prayer challenge? We would love to hear. Please share a sentence or two with us [HERE](#).

Day 6

PRAYER DAY #41: Return to the Lord’s Prayer ([Matthew 6:9-13](#)), and as you read it, respond to who God is and who you are. Pause at each line, worship him, and confess sin. Then join Ada Bible Worship as they sing “[Agnus Dei](#).” Pause and hallow God for his character by singing, “Holy are you, Lord God Almighty! Worthy is the Lamb!”

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Day 7

PRAYER DAY #42: Return to the Lord's Prayer ([Matthew 6:9-13](#)). As you pray, ask God that our church would be marked by the fruit of Jesus's death and resurrection. Ask that we would be a community that confesses our wrongdoings and forgives one another.

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