

## WEEK TWENTY-ONE, DISCIPLE MAKING

Chapters 10-12, *Pray Like It Matters*

“Prayer must not be our intermittent work but our daily business, our habit and vocation.”

C. H. Spurgeon

Prayer is hard work. There is perhaps no other spiritual discipline in which the world, the flesh, and the devil will fight us harder. Things happen when we pray that don't happen when we don't pray! I'm not going to say that everything you pray for occurs, but I will say that there is **much that will not happen** unless you pray!

The imperative preparation of teaching, of leading in a study of prayer is praying. If it comes down to studying or praying—pray! Studying is vitally important; prayer is imperative!

The following questions are given to aid you as you lead the discussion this week and apply the truths from Chapters 10-12. It is not imperative for you to use these questions or to cover them all.

Fervency in prayer is the topic for Chapter 10. As Bro. Steve discusses why we don't see the power of God the way the first century church did, he states, “I'm convinced the difference is in the area of PRAYER! We simply do not pray the way they prayed in the Book of Acts. When they prayed, they prayed fervently . . . The Greek word translated *fervent* in Acts 12:5 is *ektenos*. It means to pray “eagerly, fervently, constantly. ‘Fervent’ prayers rise from a boiling, passionate heart that pleads with God and must have an answer!” (page 86).

**Question - Are your prayers fervent? Are most of the prayers you hear prayed in church fervent? If not, why do you believe that is so?**

The second chapter of study for this session is “Praying for the Sick,” Chapter 11. **I don't know of a better question to ask than the one Bro. Steve asked, “Do you pray for people to be healed? If not, why not?” (Page 99). If you don't believably ask God to heal others, what is the reason behind that assumption?**

Chapter 12 is entitled, "The Sinners Prayer." This prayer is the most glorious prayer in all of Scripture, it is the act of someone turning from sin to the Savior. **Have you had the privilege of leading someone in "The Sinners Prayer?" After reading Bro. Steve's explanation of what "The Sinners Prayer" is, can you think of a reason or reasons why more Christians don't pray this prayer with more people?**

Our verses next week are 1 Corinthians 4:1-2.