



“Building a Life of Prayer”

October 9, 2005

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Now it came about when I heard these words, I sat down and wept and mourned for days; and I was fasting and praying before the God of heaven.

Nehemiah 1:4

You know it’s time to pray when . . .

1. Your dreams are dashed and your world just caved in.
2. Your heart is broken and your spirit’s crushed.
3. God gives you a vision for a better future.

You know your prayers have a shot, if . . .

1. Your God is not limited by time and space.
2. Your God is a covenant-keeping God.
3. Your God loves you and wants you to ask.
4. You pray in faith, believing in this God.

You know you’re growing stronger in prayer when . . .

1. You are honest about your failures.
2. You are aware of your position, relative to your Great God.
3. Prayer is an expression of your soul, not just your words.
4. You are willing to be specific.
5. You increasingly pray for long periods and in an instant.

For your LIFEGROUP:

Why is it we pray more intensely in difficult circumstances? Could this be one of the reasons God allows us to go through tough times? See 1 Peter 1:6-9

When you think about God, are you more likely to think of Him as the “Great God of Heaven” or a friend who is near?

Make a list of 14 promises of God. Pray through these promises this week.

Report how you did in your praying this week. Were you more focused? More specific? Any answers?

Meditate on Matthew 7:7-11 this week.