

New Creation Christian Fellowship
Women's Bible Study
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HANDING OUR PLANS TO GOD THROUGH PRAYER
(January-March 2013)

Problem

Many Christian women are 'making it up' as we go along. We have not **discerned our purpose**, therefore we make no correct **corresponding** plan; we **copy** after other's lives; we **connect** to some person we deeply admire and make them our purpose; or we **collapse** into quiet desperation, and meaninglessness.

There are several ways to discern Purpose. Tonight we start with the fundamental:

PRAYER

Introduction

Most people have a prayer LIST. We need a prayer LIFE.

A way of living that:

- a) **Acknowledges** God every hour: You're here! You know. You care.
- b) **Acquires** a hunger for friendship with God; Enjoys the fellowship!
- c) **Acquiesces** (bows) to the larger plan; submits and trusts God's long-term will, in the face of my short term sight.

Prayer must be:

- *Private, before public. Matthew 6: 5-6*
*Private prayer life **yields** public power! Acts 4:13*
- *Petition from the heart, not from the mouth. Matt 6: 7; Matthew 15:7-8*

Matt 6: 5-13 "And when you pray..." When is your WHEN? Not if...but when. Pray with this in mind. **Our father, in heaven...**

Thy worth – *hallowed is God's Name* AND Position (perspective). Begin by worship, honor and thanksgiving for who the Father is. The fullness of God is in the NAME... 'I am that I am'. I am to be worshipped.

Thy will – *Thy kingdom come, THY WILL BE DONE, on earth as in heaven.* I come to prayer, **subject** to the higher and sometime hidden plans of heaven. We pray salvation, healing, justice ... inside a sovereign plan of God. I am the PARTNER OF GOD in the earth...to pull in the plans of heaven, amid blocking principalities! (Daniel 10)

The wants and needs – "Give us this day..." For now...to keep me coming back for fresh provision. 6:25-34...When you pray, you do not worry about provision. When you do *not* pray...you fret.

The warrant cancelled – *forgive us our debts* = I throw off the yoke of guilt. "As we forgive..." I refuse to keep my brother under arrest. You go free. I give...for you. And I regain my energy, to use it constructively instead of wasting it on my enemy.

The watch (fullness) – *And lead us not into temptation,* but deliver us from evil (the evil one). The Message Bible says, "keep us safe from ourselves and the devil". "Watch and pray that you enter not into temptation." The more you go into a prayer life, the more the evil one brings distraction FROM PURPOSE. (Luke 4:1-15)

The win – ...For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. The cosmic battle will conclude...Our God reigns. And us with Him. (Revelation 20)