

WEEK SEVEN, DISCIPLE MAKING

Chapter 5, "Communicate: Knocking on Heaven's Door," *Growing Up*

Okay, the application this week is not very complicated. Prayer was so important to Jesus' disciples that they asked Him to teach them to pray. Robby goes on to point out what they didn't ask Jesus to teach them. "Notice what these guys didn't inquire about. Systematic theology was not at the top of the list. Church growth and leadership were not at the top of the list either. They were not interested in healing, preaching, or walking on the water." (Page 67) Prayer was and is vital to godliness.

A couple of statements by Robby summarize what we need to know and do to lead our folks into the discipline of prayer:

- "Prayer is not learned in a classroom." Page 68
- "Even though you may study a foreign language, the only way to learn it thoroughly is to speak it. Prayer is similar; you learn it by doing it." Page 68

Therefore, I want to encourage you to **give major time this week to praying together**. Do your normal weekly disciplines of Scripture review and sharing what God has said to each person through His Word. Discuss what they saw in the chapter. **However, make sure and leave quality time—to pray!**

One other thing—in the last section of the chapter, Robby talks about investing quality time in prayer. He shared about a 40 day fast from television. While I think that is a great and commendable action (!!), God led Him to do that, not someone trying to play Holy Spirit. While we ought to motivate people, make sure that you don't try to make people in your image. You may be led to devote yourself to prayer, living 40 days without television. Or, you may be led to pray an hour every morning and 30 minutes every night. However, don't try to mold other people's prayer lives. The Holy Spirit is very able to move in people's hearts without you trying to convict

them. Remember, the disciples were so moved by how Jesus prayed that they **asked Him** to teach them. Prayer is more caught than taught.

My first and greatest prayer--That I will be the man of prayer that God wants ME to be.

Our verse next week is 2 Timothy 2:15.