

## SPEAKING WITH GOD

John 15.1-17

### WHAT IS PRAYER?

It is dangerous for us to think we need not to learn how to pray. We then lump prayer in the same category as wishes and hopes, sorrows and laments. Prayer is not simply pouring out one's heart. Anyone can do that. Prayer may have those elements, but it is different. It's like saying the bible is just a book. It is a book, but it is more than that. Prayer is more than just hopes and wishes and pouring out one's heart. Yet often, that is what it is.

**Prayer is finding the way to God and speaking with Him, whether your heart is empty or full. No one can do that by himself.**

**We need Jesus Christ to do that.**

-Dietrich Bonhoeffer

### PRAYING IN JESUS' NAME

We cannot go to the Father unless we go through Christ, abiding in Him. We must learn to not only pray to Him, but pray *with Him and through Him*.

**All speech is answering speech. When we learn to speak, we only are responding to what is spoken into us. When we pray, we are either responding to what we or our sin or the world is speaking into us, or we are responding to what the Lord is speaking into us.**

-Eugene Peterson

For us to speak to God, we must be abiding in Christ, who is the abiding Word. When the Word is abiding in us and flows forth from us, we are speaking in Jesus' Name, because He Himself is the Word.

**The wedding of the bible and prayer anchors your life down in the real God.**

-Tim Keller

### THE DIVINE CONVERSATION

God speaks to us in His Word, and we respond in prayer, entering into the divine conversation, into communion with God.

**Prayer is continuing a conversation that God has started through His Word and His grace, which eventually becomes a full encounter with Him.**

-J.I. Packer

## NOTES:

### Upcoming Sermons:

Next week we will be starting a new sermon series, **Praying the Psalms: Learning to Speak with God in His Language**. What is prayer and how are we as a church going to make deeper commitments to put prayer as a centerpiece of our plan to grow in 2017? How, and why, are the Psalms not only just helpful, but necessary for us to cultivate a thriving prayer life?

### This Week's Scripture to Memorize:

**1 Corinthians 1:30**

And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, so that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

## ARE YOU NEW HERE?

### WELCOME TO LIFE MISSION CHURCH!

We'd LOVE for you to fill out the **Connection Card** on your seat to let us know you were here today. You can drop it in the offering during service or take it to one of our teammates at the **Connection Booth** outside - we'd love to give you some welcome information. Feel free to grab some food or coffee out in the courtyard and hang out. We hope you'll **join us next Sunday** and consider making us your church family.

### SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

If you've ever taken your child to one of our **Kids on Mission** classes, or enjoyed a cup of coffee after service, chances are there was a faithful servant behind each of those examples. Serving is one of the **most fun & rewarding ways we experience community** with our church family! **Fill out a connection card** to learn about the serving opportunities available today.

### COMMUNITY GROUPS

The best way to **get connected** in the church is by joining one of our **Community Groups!** You'll forge friendships, be encouraged, and take the sermon deeper into your heart every week. **Sign up for a Group** on a **Connection Card** or visit the **Connection Booth**. You won't regret it!

### GIVING

**Gospel-centered generosity** is motivated by a heart of thankfulness because of the sacrificial love God has already shown us. If you call **Life Mission** your home, you can place your gift in the offering baskets during service, give online at [lifemissionchurch.com/give](http://lifemissionchurch.com/give) or mail a check to our PO Box. Thank you so much!

### KIDS ON MISSION

Our **Kids on Mission** ministry has classes for **newborns - 5th grade**. Visit our website to read more about the vision and plan we have for our kids, including Pastor Jobey's heart for the ministry and his walkthrough of our curriculum. For questions about KOM email **Katie McGinty** at [katie@lifemission.tv](mailto:katie@lifemission.tv)

### JUNIOR HIGH STUDENTS

Our **6th - 8th graders** worship with the adults and then head to the junior high room with their teacher and classmates for the rest of service.

### HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Our **9th - 12th graders** stay in the service because we believe that it is critical for them to not "graduate the faith" when they graduate school. Our **High School Ministry meets on Thursday Nights @7PM at Casey & Amy Barnes Home in San Marcos**. For directions and/or questions about our student ministries, contact **Casey Barnes** at [casey@lifemission.tv](mailto:casey@lifemission.tv).

## VISION: WHY DO WE EXIST?

We want to see God's glory known among the nations, to the least, last, and lost.

## MISSION: WHAT DO WE NEED TO DO?

We need to make disciples who make disciples locally and globally, who are saved, equipped, and sent by the Gospel.

## STRATEGY: HOW WILL WE DO IT?

By teaching people how to be rooted in the Gospel of God's glory through the Word of God, Prayer, and Gospel Community.

## CONTACT US:

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[www.LifeMissionChurch.com](http://www.LifeMissionChurch.com)

[Facebook.com/LifeMissionChurch](https://www.facebook.com/LifeMissionChurch)

Twitter: @YourLifeMission

[YouTube.com/LifeMissionTV](https://www.youtube.com/LifeMissionTV)

## COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK

Before discussion begins, is there anyone who can recite the memory verse?

Read **John 15:1-17**. In our continued study of these verses, what was most impactful from the sermon and this passage in the context of prayer? \_\_\_\_\_

On Sunday, Jobey mentioned that prayer is not just simply coming to God with our hopes or just "pouring our heart out" before the Lord (though our prayers may have that in them). In **John 15:7** Jesus says to "ask whatever we wish, and it will be done for you." Though it seems like prayer *is in fact* "asking whatever we wish," what important stipulation does Jesus put on prayer *before* we "ask whatever we wish" for it to be the kind of prayer that God desires for us? \_\_\_\_\_

Read **John 14:6**. Dietrich Bonhoeffer says "Prayer is finding the way to God and speaking with Him, whether your heart is empty or full. No one can do that by himself. We need Jesus Christ to do that." When we consider the truth that we are not just simply praying to God but are also praying with Him and through Him by the Son, Jesus Christ, how does this change the way in which we think about prayer and respond to God in prayer? \_\_\_\_\_

Read **Romans 8:31-34**. According to these verses, God has already graciously given us the greatest gift in His Son, who has interceded on our behalf by His death and resurrection. And now the Son continues His intercession on our behalf in the very presence of the Father at His right hand. If God is for us, what still hinders us from drawing near to His throne of grace with confidence and responding to the sacrifice of His own Son? How does the truth of Christ's progressive intercession on our behalf enable us to boldly pursue communion with God in prayer? \_\_\_\_\_

Now read **Colossians 3:1-3**. What should be our response to God since our old self was crucified with Christ and we have been raised to new life with Him in His resurrection? Because our prayer is coming from a place of His merit and His righteousness rather than our own, what does abiding in Christ and seeking the things that are above look like in our daily lives and how we pray? \_\_\_\_\_

Read the J.I. Packer quote in the sermon notes, then read **John 15:7** again and **Jeremiah 29:12, 13**. How does approaching God in prayer starting first with His Word, His promises, and a heart for Him radically change the dynamic of prayer? How does Jesus say that God will respond to this kind of prayer in **John 15:7-11**? \_\_\_\_\_

Pray together as a group. Give thanks and praise to God for the intercession and greatest gift of His Son, Jesus Christ. Ask God to reveal Himself as you continually respond to Him in prayer.



**LIFE MISSION**  
C H U R C H

Pastor Jobey McGinty  
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Making Disciples Who Make Disciples Locally and Globally,  
Who are Saved, Equipped, and Sent by the Gospel.



## SPEAKING WITH GOD

John 15.1-17 // January 22, 2017

## SUNDAYS AT 10AM

Life Mission Church Meets at Classical Academy High School  
207 E Pennsylvania Ave, Escondido 92025

