



**Nipawin Bible College**  
**TH2133 On Prayer**  
**Fall 2023**  
**3 Credit Hours**  
**Mr. Richard Friedt**  
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### ***COURSE DESCRIPTION***

Everyone prays. It is one of the most essential and fundamental activities of our spiritual lives and is at the center of everything we do as Christians. Since God has commanded us to pray, and accomplishes His will through our prayers, its importance cannot be overstated.

Faithful, biblical prayer can be the most challenging spiritual work that a believer engages in. Our ability to persevere in prayer will be greatly enhanced by knowing the Word of God regarding prayer, by practicing the disciplines of prayer, and by learning from the example of those who have gone before us.

### ***COURSE TEXTBOOKS***

The Bible (a translation, *not a paraphrase*). Suggested translations are NIV, ESV, NASB...

Beeke, Joel R., and Brian G. Najapfour. *Taking Hold of God: Reformed and Puritan Perspectives on Prayer*. Grand Rapids, MI: Reformation Heritage Books, 2011.

Whitney, Donald, *Praying the Bible*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2015.

### ***COURSE OBJECTIVES***

By the end of the course, students will:

1. Understand the biblical foundations and teachings on prayer.
2. Appreciate the importance and the necessity of prayer as the means determined by God to accomplish His will on earth.
3. Gain knowledge and wisdom regarding the nature, purpose, and methods of prayer through the writings and experience of the spiritual giants of the Reformation and Puritan eras.
4. Be encouraged and equipped to grow and seek greater maturity in their spiritual life through disciplined prayer habits.

## **COURSE ASSIGNMENTS**

### **Quizzes - 5 quizzes, each worth 4% (20% total)**

- There will be five quizzes that cover material from the textbook, *Taking Hold of God: Reformed and Puritan Perspectives on Prayer*.
- Each quiz is worth 4% of the final mark.
- *Quizzes will equip students to meet Course Objective 2-3.*

***DUE: See Course Schedule***

### **Scripture Memorization - 10%**

- The Bible is central to any theology. Therefore, students will be required to memorize select verses related to prayer. Scripture can be memorized in any non-paraphrase translation.
- *Scripture Memorization will assess how well the students have met Course Objectives 1 and 4.*

***DUE: See Course Schedule***

### **Book Report/Practice - 15%**

- Students will read *Praying the Bible* and use the author's methodology for praying the Bible for two weeks.
- Students will write a three page review. The review should contain two elements:
  1. A two page overview of the book which includes an analysis of the problem identified by the author and his solution.
  2. A one page summary of the student's experience in praying the Scriptures as the book teaches, including an assessment of the benefits and short-comings of the method.

***DUE: October 25***

### **Prayer Journal - 15%**

- Students will keep a prayer journal for thirty days.
- There should be no more than 4 entries per page and at least 8 pages in total. There is no limit on the maximum pages allowed.
- The journal may be hand-written or typed and marks will be given simply for completion (content will not be evaluated or marked).
- *This assignment will equip students to meet Course Objectives 2-4.*

***DUE: November 15***

## Exegetical Paper – 20%

- Write a 4 page exegetical paper on one of the biblical prayers listed below.
- This paper should cover the following areas:
  - Cultural, situational, and literary context. Key words to be defined. (Why was this prayer prayed by the one who prayed it?)
  - How this prayer would have been understood by the original readers.
  - The main theme of the prayer.
  - What form or strategy or design does the prayer follow?
  - What do we learn about God from this prayer? How did the one praying view God?
  - How did God respond to the prayer?
  - Relevance or application for today. Are there principles that apply to us today? Is this a prayer that we could pray today?
- This assignment requires students to have at least six sources in their bibliography. Only one source can be on-line. One source must be from the Galaxie Theological Journals (journals do not count as on-line sources).
- Examples of passages to choose from (other passages may be used if approved by the instructor): 1 Samuel 2:1-10, 1 Kings 3:6-9, 2 Kings 19:15-19, Nehemiah 1:5-11, Psalm 51, Jonah 2:1-9, Daniel 9:4-19, Matthew 26:38-41, John 17:1-26, Ephesians 1:16-19, Ephesians 3:14-19.
- *This assignment will equip students to meet Course Objectives 2-4.*

***DUE: November 29***

## Final Exam - 20%

- The exam will cover material from the class.
- *The Exam will measure how well the student meets Course Objective 3.*

***DUE: Exam Week***

NOTE: All written assignments are to be typed in accordance with the guidelines in Kate L. Turabian's *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, 9th ed. (Chicago, IL: The University of Chicago Press, 2018) for papers. **(See NBC Sample Paper.)** Assignments will be graded on the basis of content, clarity, grammar, and spelling.

Assignments will be due at the **beginning of class** on the date assigned.

### **ATTENDANCE POLICY:**

- Refer to the NBC Handbook 2023-2024

### **LATE ASSIGNMENT POLICY:**

- Refer to the NBC Handbook 2023-2024

**Reading: 379 pages**

**Writing: 15 pages**

### **COURSE LECTURES AND ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE:**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Course Material</b>	<b>Assignment Due</b>
Sept. 20	Introduction / Praying like Jesus	
Sept. 27	The Holy Spirit and Prayer	Quiz #1 (chapters 1, 2)
Oct. 4	Worship / the Kingdom	Scripture Quiz – Matthew 7:7-11
Oct. 11	Forgiveness / Temptation	Quiz #2 (chapters 3, 4)
Oct. 25	Daily Bread / Jesus' name	Scripture Quiz – John 16:23-24 Book Report Due
Nov. 1	Discipline / Perseverance	Quiz #3 (chapters 5, 6, 7)
Nov. 15	Praying the Scriptures / Warfare	Scripture Quiz – Colossians 1:9-10 Prayer Journal Due
Nov. 22	Sovereignty of God / Intercession	Quiz #4 (chapters 8, 9)
Nov. 29	Passion for Prayer / Rewards	Scripture Quiz – Philippians 1:9-11 Exegetical Paper Due
Dec. 6	Life of Prayer / Review	Quiz #5 (chapters 10, 11)
Dec. 13-15	Exams	Final Exam

### **SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY:**

Beeke, James W., and Joel R. Beeke. *Developing a Healthy Prayer Life*. Grand Rapids, MI: Reformation Heritage Books, 2010.

Bounds, E. M., *The Essentials of Prayer*. Abbotsford, WI: Aneko Press, 2018.

Carson, D. A., *A Call to Spiritual Reformation, Priorities from Paul and His Prayers*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 1992.

Chapell, Bryan. *Praying Backwards*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 2005.

Henderson, Daniel. *Old Paths, New Power*. Chicago, IL: Moody, 2016.

Keller, Timothy. *Prayer*. New York, NY: Penguin Group, 2014.

Sproul, R. C. *Does Prayer Change Things?* Sanford, FL: Reformation Trust Publishing, 1999.

Wilhoit, James (Gen. Ed.), *Nelson's Personal Handbook on Prayer*. Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson, 2002.