

ALSOM

PRAYER and WORSHIP – THE311

STUDY SUMMARY for FINAL EXAM

(Note: All of these study statements are true statements about Prayer and Worship. Approximately half of these study statements WILL BE ON your final exam.)

The phrase a “God-shaped vacuum” refers to the void found in people’s lives that only God can fill.

Prayer deepens our relationship with God by helping us learn the mind and will of God.

Biblical prayer was sometimes individual, but most frequently and importantly was communal: Done with other believers in the Church.

Prayer is communicating with God, and can be done audibly or silently, individually or communally, and can be either speaking to God or listening to God.

Prayer replenishes the soul by cultivating the vital connection to the living water of Jesus.

Jesus and the disciples were raised in Judaism which had specific hours every day for prayer.

The ancient church adopted the practice of praying at specific times every day, which is called “praying the hours.”

Pre-written prayers are an excellent way of carefully thinking through what you want to say to God and ensuring that your prayer is biblical in content and in spirit, especially for public prayers.

The first step toward spiritual renewal is assessing the condition of our souls.

We assess our souls by reading Scripture that addresses our character and practice, and contemplating that Scripture in prayer.

The time of Judges is marked by lack of prayer.

New Testament prayer differs from that of the Old Testament by being both community and individually oriented.

The prayers of the Bible provide the best examples for the content and structure of our prayers.

When teaching on prayer in Matthew 6:7-8 Jesus warned against using a lot of meaningless repetitions like pagans, who thought that repeatedly saying the right words could force the gods to give them what they wanted.

The practice of praying by “confessing” or “claiming” or “declaring” that what we want is “done”, or commanding God to do something, is pagan, not Christian.

One of the oldest prayers in the Christian church is “Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner,” and is called The Jesus Prayer.

If our prayer life is to be an appropriate response to God, we must maintain a right view of God.

Christians are “in Christ” and it is Christ who perfects our prayers and as our High Priest He offers them up to Father.

Stepping out in faith affects our perception of God by causing us to appreciate His greatness.

We can develop mountain-moving faith by stepping out in commitment and obedience.

We pray in faith simply by presenting our requests to God in sincerity and trust and leaving the answer up to God's will and wisdom.

The "gift of faith" mentioned in 1 Corinthians 12 and 14 is a supernatural manifestation sovereignly given by the Holy Spirit that is a powerful assurance God is going to grant what we are asking for.

In Revelation 8, the apostle John described a scene in which heaven was silent or interrupted by the prayers of men.

Biblical faith is not something we work up or create in our minds as positive mental attitude.

The term "petition" refers to bringing our requests before God.

The teaching that if we simply believe hard enough, banish negative thoughts, and confess what we want then we shall have it is a false doctrine from the metaphysical cults (like Christian Science).

Which stage of prayer involves a daily, ongoing conversation with God? Unceasing prayer.

What did Jesus say about how His people hear His voice? He used the analogy of the sheep/shepherd relationship; sheep always recognize their shepherd's voice.

To hear God's voice, a Christian must first realize the importance of seeking God's voice.

The Bible nowhere teaches that we can "claim" something by faith or "declare" or "decree" something is done before it is done.

The primary way we learn to recognize God's voice is by learning how to study and understand God's Word.

Jesus taught us to pray to the Father, "your will be done."

In Scripture we see believers declare what God has done in the past and declare God's character, but never declare what they desired for God to do in the future.

If we believe that one's intensity of desire for something is definite assurance of God's will, then we are in error because that belief does not reflect God's character.

The Bible nowhere teaches us to deny the factual reality of poverty, bondage, sickness, or need.

We can know that God is speaking to us if godly counsel confirms the message.

Individuals should pray in community with believers in their church, particularly with their leaders, in order to accurately discern God's voice and know His will.

Spiritual growth is not only a matter of trying but is primarily a matter training.

Daily reading, meditating in, and applying God's Word will develop godly character and conform us to the image of Christ.

Knowing God's Word helps us discern God's will in prayer.

God wants us to be motivated to engage in the spiritual disciplines by a sincere desire to grow in our intimate relationship with Him.

The spiritual disciplines are a means to godliness but are not an end in themselves.

All believers should daily engage in the “spiritual disciplines” – activities and behaviors that place us in God’s presence to worship, hear, obey, and serve.

Spiritual disciplines include personal and communal prayer, Bible study, meditation on Scripture, church attendance, reading spiritual writings, service, and sometimes fasting.

The discipline of prayer requires that people practice personal communion and dialogue with God regularly.

The teaching that says I can “refuse to receive” any answer except what I want or any report that is “negative” is a pagan “mind-science” approach that entered the Church through the Word of Faith movement.

Who did Jesus promise would teach us all things? The Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit teaches us in many ways: Directly, personally, communally, through God’s Word, and through spiritual reading.

Prayer is learned through the help of the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit helps us learn to pray by reading prayers in Scripture, the prayers of people of God through the ages, and the examples of biblical prayer warriors today.

Jesus’ story that compared the prayers of a Pharisee and a tax collector illustrates God’s responsiveness to humility and God’s rejection of pride especially in supposedly religious people.

Two prerequisites within our relational lives that are necessary for effectiveness in prayer are 1) maintaining healthy personal relationships, and 2) practicing corporate reconciliation.

It is demonic to spread gossip, dissension, division, and rebellion in a community of faith, a local church.

One of the seven benefits that persistence in prayer brings to Christians is gratitude.

Maintaining eternal perspective prayer causes us to see life from God’s point of view.

A dry season of the soul is a period of time when prayer seems tedious and pointless.

Primary components of the internal noise that can distract us from prayer are our own thoughts and worries.

The secret to victorious praying is to pray even in the face of unanswered prayers.

By not answering our prayers in the manner we request, God may be protecting us from ourselves.

A primary key to having an effective ministry is prayer.

Prayer reminds us that we are not the ultimate leaders; Jesus is.

Biblical examples make clear that it is perfectly acceptable to be in doubt as to God's will, and simply pray "Lord, your will be done."

Leaders who fail to pray risk falling into the trap of self-reliance.

Holistic prayer normally has numerous parts, including confession, repentance, thanksgiving, worship, petition, and intercession.

The foundation of prayer is the faithful and merciful character of God especially as seen in the once-for-all sacrifice of Jesus Christ.

An effective spiritual leader takes what type of approach to spirituality? Holistic.

Christians are called to "latreia", which means "serving or ministering as priests."

When we worship God, we are acknowledging God's supremacy and confessing our deficiency.

The purpose of all creation is to bring God pleasure.

According to Mark 12:28-30, what is the greatest commandment? Love the Lord with your heart, soul, mind, and strength.

The passage in Deuteronomy 6:4-5 that is known as the Shema instructs us to love God with our hearts, souls, and strength.

David was called a man after God's own heart because David loved what God loved.

Much of prayer is simply trying to hear the voice of God and discern His will so that we may pray in accordance to His will.

Jesus' interaction with the woman at the well was revolutionary because it broke down gender, racial, and ethical barriers.

Jesus used the word "ekklesia" to describe the gathering of Christians for worship.

What are the expressions of worship that are called "enactments"? Water baptism and the Lord's Supper – the retelling of the gospel by collective demonstration.

Every local church and denominational tradition has portions of their services that are done in a particular order for particular reasons.

"Liturgy" simply means the form, order, or pattern we follow in our worship service.

All churches have a liturgy, whether or not they call it that.

Modern low-church liturgies were invented in the 1900's and normally include the Welcome, Opening Prayer, Music, Announcements, Offering, Sermon, perhaps an altar call, and Dismissal.

Modern low-church liturgies have no teaching and no biblical significance.

Ancient liturgies were created in the ancient church, patterned on Scripture, and normally include the Procession, Creed, Repentance/Confession, Prayers of Thanksgiving, Call to Worship, Music, Scripture, Sermon, Holy Communion, Prayer for Needs, Benediction, Dismissal.

Ancient liturgies are designed to every week teach how to appropriately: Repent, Approach God, Declare the True Faith, Worship, Preach Scripture, Receive Communion, Receive Grace, Pray for Others, Be Blessed, Be Sent on Mission.

Ancient liturgies are designed to walk through God's story by approaching God appropriately, telling the story of redemption, worshipping, teaching God's Word, and experiencing God's grace.

Ancient liturgies have much teaching and biblical significance.

"Glossolalia" edifies the individual by providing a deep connection with God.

The term "holistic worship" means worshipping God with all we are.

Our worship songs should have enough deep biblical content to teach us the Bible and shape us into maturity.

According to Colossians 3:16 the Gospel of Jesus is to be contained fully and clearly in what we sing.

According to Colossians 3:16 both Scripture and doctrine teaching us the story of Jesus are to permeate what we sing.

According to Colossians, primary purposes of the songs we sing are to teach and warn one another.

The hymn Paul quotes in Colossians 1:15-20 is complex in language and content, and would have challenged the average believer in every New Testament church theologically, linguistically, and artistically.

The hymn in Colossians 1:15-20 is God-focused, Gospel-centered, and Scripture-filled, NOT focused on the feelings, wants, or needs of humans.

The hymn in Colossians 1:15-20 uses a lot of biblical imagery and Gospel phrases to teach sound doctrine.

The hymn in Colossians 1:15-20 contains complex words that have technical doctrinal meanings

New Testament hymns are very artistic and theologically rich but not very repetitive.

The hymn in Colossians 1:15-20 focuses on God's redemptive mission: in Christ, in creation, in the Gospel, in the victory of Jesus through his crucifixion, in the supremacy of Christ, and in ultimate reconciliation.

Two things that New Testament hymns do not have are simplistic language and a lot of repetition.

According to 2 Corinthians 3:18, when we worship God and experience His presence, we are transformed into a reflection of God.

Our "opinion" about Christian worship songs can no more differ from Scripture than can our "opinion" about doctrine or lifestyle.

One danger in Pentecostal worship is the lack of concern for the inherent power of music to generate "altered states" of emotion and thought in participants, making them more susceptible to suggestion.

Acceptable worship is defined by God not by us, and is always based on truth, never on feelings.

We must test every worship song we sing with the clear teaching Scripture regarding content and structure.

One danger in Pentecostal / charismatic worship is the lack of concern for solid biblical lyrics and sound doctrine that will teach God's Word and the Gospel to God's people.

It is a serious error to believe that the "worship" portion of a service - usually meaning the "singing" - is just as important as the teaching and preaching of God's Word.

There is no biblical basis for equating a highly emotional song service with the supernatural presence of the Holy Spirit.

The belief that a particular kind of highly passionate song service is "prophetic" in some way, that it brings a special atmosphere that releases spiritual power or gifts or enables the Pastor to preach-teach effectively, is false teaching.

The idea that if the Holy Spirit moves, or people are saved, or supernatural phenomena occur, that God is therefore placing his approval on the worship leaders, musicians, or song content, is nowhere taught in Scripture.

One danger of Pentecostal-charismatic worship is the false teaching of "The Tabernacle of David" as an especially anointed kind of spiritual worship that God has restored in these last days.

In 1 Corinthians 6:11 Paul tells Christians that they were washed, sanctified, and justified in Jesus Christ.

The Christian Year consists of the Cycle of Light, Cycle of Life, and Ordinary Time.

The Cycle of Light begins with Advent on the Fourth Sunday before Christmas Day.

Advent is a word that means "coming."

Advent is a time of self-examination, seeing our need of a savior, preparing to celebrate Christ's First Advent properly, and preparing to meet Christ when He comes again.

Christmas Season begins on Christmas Day and celebrates the birth of Jesus for twelve days, until Epiphany.

Epiphany means "revealing."

Epiphany celebrates the coming of the Magi and Jesus revelation as Light of the world who will save people from every nation.

The Cycle of Light consists of Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany.

The Cycle of Life celebrates the passion, crucifixion, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ as the Lamb of God and savior of the world.

The Cycle of Life includes Lenten Season, which includes Holy Week, Resurrection Sunday, ending with Pentecost Sunday.

The Cycle of Life includes Lenten Season, a forty-day season of fasting, self-examination, repentance, and preparation to remember the passion of Jesus and His resurrection.

Holy Week begins on Palm Sunday, the Sunday before Resurrection Sunday, and includes Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Resurrection Sunday (Easter).

The Easter Season lasts for seven weeks and is a time of celebrating and meditating on the victory of Jesus Christ on the cross, in His resurrection, His ascension, and all that this means for humanity and eternity.

Easter Season ends on Pentecost Sunday, which celebrates the coming of the Holy Spirit upon Jesus' followers, marking them as the people of God and empowering them for world mission.

Ordinary time is the time between the Cycle of Light and the Cycle of Life.

The church celebrates the Christian Year in order to walk through each year commemorating the major, saving events of the life of Jesus Christ.

By celebrating the Christian Year the Church guarantees that every cardinal doctrine of the Christian faith is taught, preached, and engaged every year by every believer.

Every year different Scriptures are used to tell the story of Jesus and to walk through Christ's days with Him.

A church's liturgy and celebration of the Christian Year are the major "enactments" within which all other enactments of the faith dwell.

Christian worship songs may contain Christian words or even Scripture, but may be misusing these things if they are not reflect correct biblical doctrine.

Christian worship lyrics should be God-centered and not man-centered.

Christian worship has become too feeling-focused and not truth-focused.

The pervasive presence of personal pronouns like "I" and "me" and "my" indicate that a song is self-centered not God-centered.

Scientific studies have proven that songs with highly repetitive music and simple phrases can produce a trance-like state and make us very susceptible to manipulation.

The lyrics of Christian worship songs should tell parts of God's story of creation, incarnation, Jesus' saving work, the salvation of the nations, Christ's return, eternity.

Our more intimate and personal worship songs should always be accompanied by songs of solid biblical content and doctrinal substance.

Christian worship songs should be accessible to the congregation's culture and musical heritage.

Average men and women should be able to sing the melodies of the worship songs we use without straining or dropping out. The characteristic of a song that enables this is called "singability."

Christian worship should enable the congregation to sing confidently, not create a performance band and solo artist on stage.

Our songs should teach our people the great truths of our faith, helping them sing these truths wherever they are throughout the week.

All of the examples we have of hymns and songs in Scripture are God-focused, even when they are laments in the Psalms.

Biblical songs describe and exalt God and His mighty works or describe Jesus and His great victory.

We should always consider what our songs and congregation would sound like if we did not have all of the electronics to assist us.

Explicit and accurate biblical content should be the primary consideration when choosing the songs we sing.

Using music to create a powerful emotional experience can be addictive and cathartic, without discipling or transforming a single life.

Pentecostals now have great difficulty discerning the difference between the moving of the Holy Spirit and a passionate musical performance.

Worship songs that focus on my wants, my needs, my feelings, have become idolatrous, placing the focus of worship on me and what God does for me rather than on God for His sake.

People who stand to lead others in worship should be progressing well in their discipleship.

Worship leaders and teams serve the Lord by serving the congregation and pastors.

Those serving on worship teams should have servant's hearts, be teachable and humble, always open to correction, always promoting unity, never proud or self-seeking.