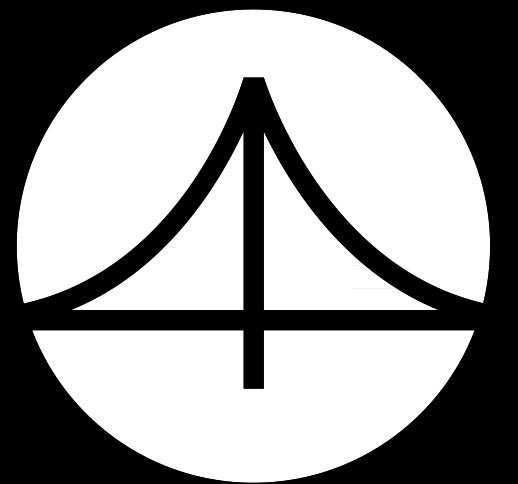


Why We Do...

Prayer

2 Chronicles 7:13-14; Psalm 62:5-8; Acts
2:42, 47B; 1 Corinthians 14:26; 1 John 2:27



- Why do Christians pray at all?
- Why do Christians pray together when they gather for church services?
- Why does the Bridge do our prayer time differently from many other churches?

Christians Pray Because...

- Christianity is first and foremost a relationship
 - If you know lots of things ABOUT God, but you don't know God, you're not a Christian
 - If Christianity is primarily about a relationship, then communication is essential for a healthy relationship
 - God wants us to talk to Him like we'd talk to our best friend - totally unfiltered

Christians Pray Because...

- Prayer changes things
 - The God of the Bible intervenes in our world and is committed to doing good to the world
 - The Bible is full of stories where prayer changes things in the real world

**“When I pray, coincidences
happen; when I don’t, they
don’t.”**

–William Temple

Christians Pray Because...

- God speaks to us through prayer
 - Psalm 62 calls us to wait in silence on God because God speaks to us in the silence
 - Listening to God in prayer doesn't mean every thought that comes into your head while praying is from God
 - God will never tell us to do things through prayer that contradict what He has already said in the Bible

Christians Pray Together When They Gather Because...

- God calls for the church to operate as a unit, not just a collection of individual Christians

The Bridge Does Prayer Time the Way We Do Because...

- Church is meant to be a family where everyone contributes, not a show
- Doing prayer in small groups allows everyone to contribute something to the church family during our time together

“Feel free to stop and pray now. It’s okay if your mind wanders or your prayers get interrupted. Don’t be embarrassed by how needy your heart is and how much it needs to cry out for grace. Just start praying. Remember, the point of Christianity isn’t to learn a lot of truths so you don’t need God anymore. We don’t learn God in the abstract. We are drawn into his life.”

-Paul Miller