
PRAYER ON MISSION

A Harvest Season

In this cultural moment we are living in a harvest season

McCrindle research reveals one in four Australians would explore questions of faith if invited by someone, by a friend they trusted.

If under the age of 25, it's one in two.

Nicky Gumble rightly says, *"This is the greatest season of evangelism in our generation."*

How do we prepare for a harvest season?

Prayer, the Heartbeat of Mission

Matthew 9:37-38 – Lord of the Harvest

John Wesley once said, *"God does nothing but by prayer, and everything with it."*

Just before we go, wait...

Luke 24:48-49

Acts 1:15, the followers of Jesus are therefore waiting in prayer, worship, reading scripture and there are about 120 people.

While *waiting*, His Presence arrives in the form of wind and fire

And as an amazed crowd gathers, Peter recognises his moment to share the gospel and over 3000 people were baptised that day. (Acts 2:41)

Acts 2:47 ... "and the Lord added to their number daily." (NIV)

Ancient Christian prayer, "Come, Holy Spirit"

Much Prayer, Much Power

Our “go” is shaped by a “*waiting*” in prayer

Much prayer, much power.

Little prayer, little power.

No prayer, no power.

How to Pray? A Guide for Ordinary People

Luke 5:16

Darrell Johnson, “Fifty-seven words that change the world”

Lord’s Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13)

“Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from the evil one.” (NIV)

A Revolutionary Prayer

A New Position: “Our Father” (Matthew 6:9a)

Perspective, a Life of Worship (Matthew 6:9b-10)

Eugene Peterson, “Life’s basic decision is rarely, if ever, whether to believe in God or not, but whether to worship or compete with him.”[3]

Provision, Courage to Pursue the Call (Matthew 6:11-13)

Our calling ahead will be sustained by God’s provision.

1. “Give us today our daily bread” (Present)
2. “Forgive us our debts” (Past)
3. “And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.” (Future)

Jesus said, *“The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.”*

Come, Holy Spirit

Discussion Questions

1. Have you noticed an increasing desire or opportunities for people in your life to explore faith? If so, how have you stepped into “a conversation God is already having with someone”?
2. How has “waiting on the Lord” in prayer shaped your perspective on a situation or with a person you’ve been praying about? What was that process like and what was hard or good about this moment moving forward?
3. How do you find moments for “wait” in prayer while there is so much pressure to be on the “go” in everyday life? What works for you?
4. As you consider the Lord’s Prayer, what stands out for you? How do you find it prepares you best as we consider the Great Commission and prepare for a harvest season?