

- 1 Thess 5:16 says “Rejoice always!” Some of us need to be trained to be joyful. We need to learn to come and just minister to the Lord. We need to be trained to be happy in God – to rejoice. There are so many things to be thankful for.
- Thankfulness and adoration brings us to unceasing prayer.

ASK THE LORD FOR ENCOURAGEMENT

Whatever you need you be the first to give it away. Need encouragement, go encourage somebody. Need some money? Go give some cash to somebody. Sick? Go lay hands and pray for someone worse than you. Let the Lord comfort you. It’s His job description. Let Him do His job.

The important thing is not “What do you want? **The important thing is “Where are you living?”** Where – **what place** are you living from? From your **spirit or your soul?**

AN EXAMPLE OF A CRAFTED PRAYER. “Father, please touch me by Your Spirit. Make me hungry and thirsty for Your righteousness. I desire Your presence above all things – to walk in unbroken delight with You. To be a constant and continual daily pleasure to You, Lord. I need Your purity and holiness, to be kept by Your mighty power, oh God. I humble myself before You and pray that Your truth and integrity will fill my life.”

You can write special crafted prayers for each member of your family, each friend, church, different ministries and your community.

Persevering prayer is continuing to pray at the same level of intensity, passion, power and faith – keeping hope alive, bright and shiny.

Remember what we do is: worship; read the Scriptures; meditate (think deeply); wait on God and listen; write down your thoughts – and a crafted prayer is birthed. Then **PUSH – Pray Until Something Happens.**

Week 6

Welcome in God’s family:

Prayer – your essential communication with God

Learn to draw near to God through prayer. Speak to Him as you would with your best friend. Share everything about your life with Him. He is always there. There is nothing about you or your life that God does not want to hear.

Day 1	Praise God continuously.	Ps 34:1-22; Ps 34:1-3
Day 2	Repent from your sin before God.	Ps 66:1-20; Ps 66:16-20
Day 3	Bring needs before Him.	Phil 4:4-23; Phil 4:4-7
Day 4	Thank God for everything.	Eph 5:1-33; Eph 5:19-20
Day 5	Pray the Word.	2 Tim 3:1-17; 2 Tim 3:15-17

Welcome in God’s family: Holy Communion

Use communion daily in your life, bringing into remembrance.

Day 6	The bread is the body of Christ which is broken for us.	1 Cor 11: 17-34; 1 Cor 11:23-26; Isa 53:1-12; 3-6
Day 7	The wine is the new covenant in the blood of Jesus.	1 Cor 11:23-26; Heb 9:12-15

Week 7

Welcome in God’s family:

Walking in the Spirit

We are mainly spiritual beings. We are spirit (according to the image of God), and live in a physical body and also have a soul. Our whole life

is being controlled through the dimension of our soul and body (flesh), but Jesus challenges us to move into His dimension where the Holy Spirit dwells with us and wants to lead us into fellowship with Him (*Koinonia*).

A firm understanding of your spirit, soul and body will be the foundation of your life.

- Your body is obvious. It can be touched and felt.
- Your soul is your thoughts, will, emotions, feelings, intellect and conscience. It brings forth feelings of happiness, sadness, anger and depression. It is the middle emotional part which most people call personality.
- All people are in touch with their body and soul. Most people function only from their body and soul.
- Your body can tell you you are tired. Emotionally you know when you are sad, mentally worn out and need rest. You cannot contact your spirit physically or through your feelings. The spirit cannot be accessed in any natural way – herein lies the problem of the Christian life.
- The spirit is the part of us that is changed at new birth (2 Cor 5:17-18). It is not a process. It has been done immediately. Everything you will ever need in your Christian life is already in your spirit. Your spirit is perfect and complete. Your spirit is now exactly the way it will be in eternity. You will not get a new spirit when you go to heaven. Your spirit is complete and mature as Jesus is.
- And the rest of the Christian life is learning to believe that by looking into the spiritual

mirror, the Word of God, and believing what it says, and renewing your mind. And as you get your soul in agreement with what has already transpired in your spirit, you will see the physical benefit.

- The Word of God is revealing to us spiritual reality. If you want to know what your spirit is like, you have to go to the Word of God (James 1:23-25). The Word of God is the mirror that reflects to you what your spirit is like when you have been regenerated.
- Now you have to get your soul into agreement with your spirit by reading, believing and living the Word of God. If you don't either your soul or your body will control your life.
- The spirit is the part of us through which God is communicating with us. You discern spiritual truth through the Word of God (John 6:63).

Day 1	We are spirit, have a soul and live in a body.	1 Thess 5:1-28; 1 Thess 5:19-24
Day 2	Our spirit becomes alive in Christ.	Rom 8:1-39; Rom 8:9-17
Day 3	We must live according to the Spirit.	Gal 5:16-26; 2 Cor 5:5-8; Rom 8:1-4
Day 4	The fruit of the Spirit.	Gal 5:16-26
Day 5	Be spiritually minded.	Rom 8:5-17; 2 Cor 4:1-18; 2 Cor 4:16-18

Week 8

Welcome in God's family: Stewardship

It is every believer's responsibility to be an accountable steward of his / her tithes of time and belongings.

Day 1	Everything we have comes from God.	Deut 8:17-18; Jam 1:17
Day 2	God's requirements and promises.	Mal 3:6-12; Luk 11:39-42
Day 3	God loves a cheerful giver.	2 Cor 9:1-15; 2 Cor 9:6-10

Welcome in God's family: Water Baptism

Through being baptized the new believer identifies himself with the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. The water grave symbolizes the death of the old sinful nature and the resurrection of a new life and walk with Christ.

Day 4	All believers must be baptized.	Mark 16:1-20; Mark 16:15-16
	Salvation comes before baptism.	Matt 28:1-20; Matt 28:18-20
Day 5	It begins with repentance and remission of sins.	Acts 2:1—47 Acts 2:37-39
Day 6	Believe in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.	Acts 8:9-13, 26-40
Day 7	Saved from the dominion of sin.	Rom 6:1-23; Rom 6:1-11
	Being raised to a new life in Christ	Col 2:11-15; Col 3:1-25

Bibliography: In His Image – Tania Berrangé



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Week 6 – 8

CRAFTED PRAYER - By Graham Cooke

(Continues from Week 1-5)

THE RULES FOR CRAFTED PRAYER

- Worship first.
- Pray in the Spirit
- Read Scripture.
- Think deeply.
- Worship and pray in the Spirit.
- Write down what your thoughts are.

BECOMING STILL

The Psalms are David's Journal. He writes in Ps 46:10. Be still and know.

- **We have to learn to bring ourselves to stillness to quell (conquer) the clamouring (screaming) on the inside.** Heb 4 says "Labour to be at rest". Everything that causes you anxiousness, you push it away. "No! I'm not having that!"
- Peace is the equalizing pressure on the inside. *An equal or greater amount of peace will come on the inside when you pray right so that what is on the inside, governs the outside.*
- **Locate God. Make it your ministry.** Find Him and go stand next to Him. Listen to His whisper – a sign of intimacy. God answers in a whisper to help us learn to listen.
- Stillness is a forerunner to peace. **Without stillness, our experience of God is limited.**