## 2021-01-31 - Study Class On Prayer Part 2 notes with Becky Stayton

#### https://youtube.com/live/eAc7SoEAIZQ

# **Summary**

This class revolves around the importance of understanding God as a loving King, the significance of prayer, repentance, and forgiveness, and how they relate to spiritual growth. Illustrative examples, such as the garden metaphor for the heart and the significance of sharing spiritual fruit, emphasize how forgiveness and repentance lead to a fruitful life in Christ.

## **Highlights**

- **1. Foundation of Prayer:** Explores the Lord's Prayer and its elements.
- 2. Robe of Righteousness: Illustrates God's forgiveness via the "robe of righteousness."
- 3. Garden Metaphor: Sin is likened to pests that harm the garden of our hearts.
- 4. Forgiveness's Impact: Unforgiveness blocks God's forgiveness to us.
- 5. Fruitfulness: Spiritual fruit is meant to be shared, not hoarded.
- 6. Asking in Faith: Encourages asking God with the assurance of His answers.
- 7. God's Provision: Emphasizes seeking God's kingdom leads to His provision for our needs.

## **Key Insights**

- 1. Understanding God as King: Recognizing God as a loving King transforms our perspective on prayer and our relationship with Him, fostering a deeper connection. This understanding encourages us to approach Him with trust and love.
- 2. Repentance as Joyful Return: Repentance isn't a burden but a joyful return to God, illustrating His desire for fellowship with us. This perspective shifts repentance from a fear-based act to a hopeful reunion.
- **3.** The Garden of Our Hearts: Viewing our hearts as gardens emphasizes the need for nurturing and protecting them from sin, which can choke spiritual growth. This metaphor helps children understand the significance of maintaining a healthy heart.
- **4. Unforgiveness as a Weight:** Holding onto grudges is detrimental to our spiritual journey, weighing us down and hindering our relationship with God. Recognizing this can motivate us to seek forgiveness actively.
- **5.** The Role of Prayer: Prayer is a vital communication tool with God, requiring faith and sincerity. It emphasizes that asking is not just about requests but about seeking alignment with God's will.
- **6. Sharing Spiritual Fruit:** Just as fruit nourishes, sharing our spiritual gifts and testimonies nurtures others and spreads God's love, reinforcing community and connection among believers.
- 7. Faith in God's Provision: Trusting God with our needs allows us to focus on seeking His kingdom, leading to unexpected blessings and provisions that align with His plans for us. This faith strengthens our reliance on Him.