

Discussion Questions for *Too Busy Not to Pray*

1. How do you respond to Bill Hybels's statement: "*The most intimate communion with God comes only through prayer.*" (p.10)?
2. What is the relationship between prayer and God's power? How does this concept relate to Romans 8:26?
3. Do you feel comfortable or uncomfortable going to God with your problems? Explain.
4. What parallels can you draw between God's generosity to us and parents' generosity to their children?
5. While some Christians believe God is willing to answer prayer, they inwardly question God's ability to do so. What would cause Christians to question God's ability?
6. What is the relationship between prayer and faith? Read Hebrews 11:1, 8-18. How should faith affect the content of our prayers?
7. How do you respond to Bill Hybels's statement: "Our spirits, like our bodies, have requirements for health and growth"?
8. Name some habits that contribute to spiritual health. Are these habits part of your life?
9. What priority did Jesus place on prayer? How do we know this?
10. What are the advantages to seeking out a private location for prayer?
11. How sincere are your prayers? How much of your prayer life consists of empty, shallow phrases?
12. Bill Hybels used the acrostic ACTS (adoration, confession, thanksgiving and supplication) to introduce us to a balanced prayer life. Which elements come easiest for you? Which elements do you most often omit?
13. Why is it good to start your prayers with adoration?
14. What are some benefits of confession?
15. In your prayers, how much of your time is spent focusing on your problems compared with the amount of time you spend focusing on God?

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16. How does our focus on God change the way we see ourselves?
17. Can you name some inappropriate prayer requests you have made? What are some examples of inappropriate prayer requests we might make without even realizing it?
18. What most hinders the development of your prayer life?
19. If your prayers aren't answered, do you think it is always your fault?
20. Consider the story of Job. Was Job's misfortune his own fault? Is God's first concern always to answer prayer?
21. Have you ever been driven to prayer because of serious problems you were facing? Did you continue to pray after the problems were solved?
22. Has guilt ever kept you from praying? At the time, did you realize how your sin was affecting your time with God?
23. How long should we persist in praying for apparently hopeless cases?
24. Do you truly believe that prayer is a profitable use of your time? Explain.
25. What part does listening to God play in your prayer life?
26. What factors keep us from hearing God's voice?
27. Why are we often reluctant to respond when we receive a leading from God?
28. How can we be sure that a leading is from God? Could it be our own desires? a temptation from Satan? How can we know the difference?
29. What is the relationship between prayer and living in the presence of God?
30. How can we practice the presence of God in our lives?

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