

STM Team Meeting Agenda

Month of February

1. Open/Brief Prayer 2 minutes

2. Communication/Reminders 2-3 minutes
 - **STM 2019 Monthly Fast**, 3rd Wednesday of the month

3. Weekly Discussion 7-12 minutes

Monthly Topic: The Power of Prayer

In 2019, Lakewood Church is committing to take prayer to the next level – individually and as a church family. Prayer is the key to getting God involved in our situations and circumstances. Many failures and obstacles that we face are because we fail to pray. The Bible says in Luke 18:1, “men ought always pray and not get weary or faint.” We must pray, believing that God is willing and able to grant our requests that are in alignment with His Word and His will for our lives.

Monthly Discussion Scriptures:

Week One: Philippians 4:6 “Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.”

Weekly Reflection Thought: This week, consider what God thinks about worry.

For Further Discussion: Everyone has challenges, but how we behave and think about them can determine how much peace we carry as we go through them. Those who choose worry over prayer are often easy to spot. They wander around fretting over everything. God does not intend for us to be fretters! He gave us all the tools we will ever need to manage a trial – starting with Jesus! Can you share a situation in your life that could potentially cause you to worry or be anxious? According to this verse, what are some specific things you should do instead?

Week Two: Mark 11:24 “Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.”

Weekly Reflection Thought: Think about all the things that you believe God will bring to fruition.

For Further Discussion: The definition of “believe” is “to have confidence and accept something as true.” Interestingly, it is NOT defined by a specific time frame or by specific circumstances. We may believe it is going to rain, yet none of us can predict exactly when that will happen. So it is with believing God for a particular thing. We can know for sure it will happen, yet not know when or how. Can you recall a time when you stood in prayer, believing for something and God granted your request? Share the story with your team.

**VIEW NEXT WEEK’S FASTING FOCUS
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NEXT WEEK'S FASTING FOCUS:

Monthly Prayer/Fasting Focus:

I urge you, first of all, to pray for all people. Ask God to help them; intercede on their behalf, and give thanks for them, ² Pray this way for kings and all who are in authority so that we can live peaceful and quiet lives marked by godliness and dignity. ³ This is good and pleases God our Savior ⁴ who wants everyone to be saved and to understand the truth. ⁵ For there is only one God and one Mediator who can reconcile God and humanity - the man Jesus Christ. ⁶ He gave His life to purchase freedom for everyone. This is the message God gave to the world at just the right time.

1 Timothy 2:1-6

Pray for the STM volunteers, congregants, leaders, staff and Pastors of Lakewood Church:

- To commit our plans for 2019 to the Lord.
- To see increase in salvations, healings, and restoration in marriages and families.
- To see unity amongst our volunteer teams, congregation, and staff.
- To see our church family grow in their personal journey with Jesus Christ and discover God's unlimited supply of love, freedom, peace, wisdom and provision.

Week Three: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-17 "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing..."

Weekly Reflection Thought: Think about ways you can continually be in prayer.

For Further Discussion: The term "pray without ceasing" can be intimidating, if we don't fully understand it. What are we supposed to do? Give up every other life activity and only sit and pray? Absolutely not! The phrase represents three separate prayer instructions. First, is to pray with dependency, trusting that ALL things come through God. Second, we should pray repeatedly and often to build a solid relationship with God. And finally, we should never come to a point where we give up on prayer. When we follow these guidelines, we can be assured we are praying without ceasing. Think of some ways to maintain constant communication with God through prayer and share with your team.

Week Four: Ezra 8:23 "So we fasted and petitioned our God about this, and He answered our prayer."

Weekly Reflection Thought: Consider the benefits of adding fasting to your prayer life.

For Further Discussion: Fasting is considered standard operating procedure for Christians. It has been common amongst God's people, starting way back in the Old Testament. Adding this spiritual discipline to our prayer life doesn't have to be complicated business. We can think of it as a way to impose purposeful self-control into our lives. When we replace the items fasted (food, phone, internet, television, etc) with prayer, the consequence is always empowerment. We gain newfound strength because of the deeper intimacy we have created with God as a result of fasting and prayer. Discuss with your team the various ways you have considered fasting.

4. Closing Prayer/Encouragement
Reminder: Pray for Pastor/Speaker, Worship, Harvest

2-3 minutes

TOTAL TIME:

15-20 minutes