

# Prayer

## The Mission of Prayer

Acts 4:23-31

1. Your Bible will help your prayers.
2. Empty prayers fall under their own weight; take courage to be honest.
3. Sometimes what you seek for you needs to happen in you.

Download 'The Mission of Prayer' by Tim Kuhl (01/21/24) free, or share it via email, Facebook, or Twitter at [hcbc.com/media](http://hcbc.com/media).

# MY APPLICATION

Use the following questions this week to reflect on what it would mean to align yourself with the truths taught in Scripture. Each question is meant for both personal reflection and as a catalyst for discussion with your family, friends, or small group.

1. Our church has focused for a few weeks now on helping people have a framework for prayer. The passage in Acts 4:23-31 this week records an early church prayer. It begins with Adoring God for who He is. Is it hard for you to know what sorts of things to say about God? For those of you who do begin prayer with Adoring God, what do you tend to say and how does it impact your time in prayer?
2. The prayer in Acts came after a spiritual victory AND a cultural challenge. How often does our culture today discourage you as you pray for the world around you?
3. The church prayed pretty openly about how much of the culture around them challenged God. How do you hold in your own mind that God is in control, and that so many people challenge Him? Do you try not to think about it? Get mad about it? What is your general response to a God in control, but a world that feels out of control?
4. As we mature it can be hard to think we still need to grow or change. We spend so much energy on our kids or career that any energy left doesn't feel sufficient to grow. We heard that sometimes our prayers need to change us more than our circumstances. Is that encouraging or exhausting to think about?

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## Memory Verse

And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all boldness,

**Acts 4:29 ESV**