

Creatures of Habit // Week 1 // Prayerlessness

1. We're creatures of habit. Which is easier for you - to break a bad habit or form a new one?
2. What's the best new habit you've developed over the past year? Or, what's the worst habit you've developed?
3. Why is prayer such an integral part of breaking bad habits or starting good ones? And here's a unique challenge ... how complicated does it become when prayer is the habit you're attempting to develop?
4. In Luke 11:1, the disciples come to Jesus and say, "Lord, teach us to pray." They didn't ask him how to preach or teach or do miracles. Of all the things they could have asked Jesus, why was prayer the priority?
5. Most Christians at one time or another have experienced a season of prayerlessness. What are some reasons you stopped praying? What were the circumstances of that season?
6. Read Mark 9:14-29. In verse 24, the boy's father said, "I believe; help me overcome my unbelief." He believed Jesus was the healer, yet he struggled to believe Jesus could heal his son. How can prayer help us overcome our unbelief?
7. 1 Peter 5:7 says, "Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you." Are there issues in your life that you think are "too small" pray about?
8. If prayer keeps us centered and focused on God, which of the five steps identified in the message would help you make prayer a higher priority?
 - Identify your obstacles. - Schedule a time to pray.
 - Find a prayer partner. - Use an outline.
 - Pray with boldness.

Read this quote by Billy Graham: "We are to pray **in times of adversity**, lest we become faithless and unbelieving. We are to pray **in times of prosperity**, lest we become boastful and proud. We are to pray **in times of danger**, lest we become fearful and doubting. We are to pray **in times of security**, lest we become self-sufficient."

Pray.