

Spirituality and Prayer Minister Training (404)

Apostle Dr. Michael L. Hargett, Sr. PhD Servant Leader © ELFM - REVISED JANUARY 2022

Apostolic Thrust

Vision

Building people and transforming lives!

Mission

'Deliverance' by Evangelism, 'Discipleship' by Education, 'Development' by Empowerment and 'Deployment' by Enterprising.

Ethos

"Whole life = Whole person" (Mind - Body - Soul)

Assignment

"Worshipping God and Serving people"

Five Fold Ministry Gifts

For the perfecting of the Saints, For the work if the Ministry, and for the Edification of God through Christ.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- LEARN Value of Prayer & Spirituality in the modern church.
- DISCOVER The importance of Prayer & Spirituality in Millennium Ministry.
- **EXPLORE** The impact of Prayer & Spirituality as part of the Millennium Ministry Concept.
- PLAN To have an active Prayer life where being spiritual is a lifestyle.
- **EXECUTE** A devoted Prayer & Spirituality routine for life.

Aspects to Explore

- ♦ What is "Prayer"
- ♦ What do we understand by "Spirituality?"
- How do we develop & maintain our Personal Spirituality?



PRAYER AND APPROACHES TO PRAYER

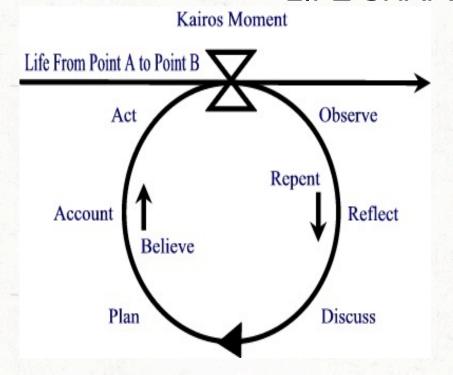
- What is "prayer" and what are we doing? (Matthew 6:9-13)
 - A conscious relationship with God; includes words, thoughts and private meditation.
- Importance of prayer (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)
 - A "barometer" of our faith; it is at heart of Christian life
- Aspects/forms of prayer (Matthew 4:1-11)
 - Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication
- Ways/approaches to prayer (James 5:16)
 - Written, read, ex tempore, silent, Scripture, objects
- When to pray ...and whom to pray for (Matthew 17:21)
 - Yourself...at church... church meetings...pastoral visits.
 - Can pray throughout the day! (Life Shape Octagon) (Six Times Daily)

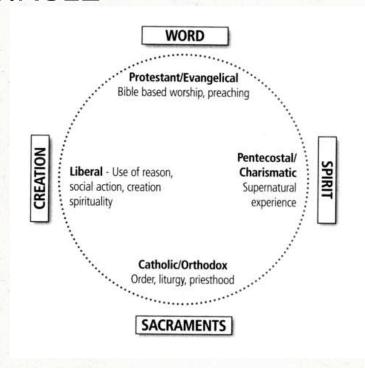
CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY

- Spirituality (generally) expresses the intimacy of our association with the Father.
- Christian spirituality is the way we realize our relationship with Father God through Jesus.
- Reformed Spirituality
 - Emphasis of access to God through personal experience.
- A "thoughtful faith" that combines mystery and rationality to provoke thinking what faith means in a complex world of life and work.

EMPHASIS SPIRITUALITY & RELATIONSHIP/GOD

LIFE SHAPE CIRCLE

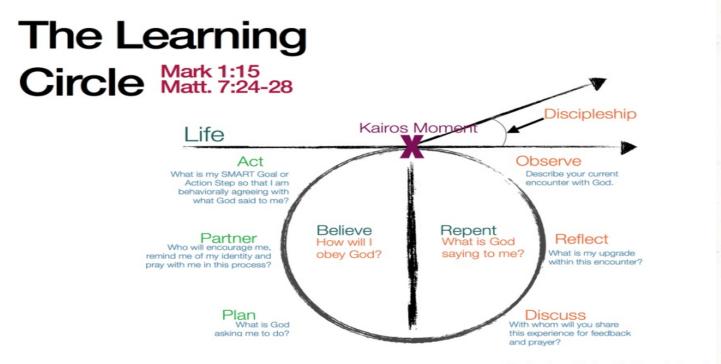




EMPHASIS SPIRITUALITY & RELATIONSHIP/GOD



EMPHASIS SPIRITUALITY & RELATIONSHIP/GOD



SPIRITUALITY EXPRESSED BY

- Focus on Scripture
 - For ordering of personal & church life by reflection on Scriptures and Bible study.
- Openness to the Holy Spirit
 - Being at work and present throughout daily life.
- Creativity (always "reforming")
 - New patterns of worship, prayer and service.
- Emphasis on the "local"
 - Church is seen fully in each local gathering.
- Intellectual grappling with faith
 - Allowing doubts and questions to be asked.



PESONAL SPIRITUALITY

- Will largely direct how we pray and how we relate to God in our daily lives.
- Is a function of how we view Christ...
 - Christ as suffering for us/others,
 - Christ as preacher/teacher,
 - Christ as a healer/reconciler,
 - Christ as missionary (i.e. 'boundary crosser').
- How we view Christ, and how we develop an internal spirituality, will determine how we take action in response to our spiritual calling.

THE SPIRITUAL LIFE & JOURNEY

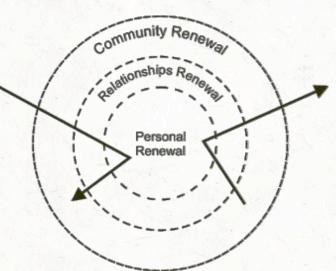
Is a prayerful life where life becomes prayer.

The spiritual journey is a two-way journey.

from inside-out ...

... and from outside-in.

- Ministership is both a "spiritual calling" and a "spiritual task"
 - called to exercise pastoral care and spiritual oversight of the church.



PERSONAL SPIRITUALITY NEVER IN ISOLATION

- Development of our spirituality is not all private.
 - Done within the context of a spiritual community:
 - Spiritual community of our families
 - Within the spiritual community of the Church,
 - and in a prayer/house or other small groups.
 - These communities serve useful purposes for mutual education, support, and spiritual growth.
 - We influence others' growth in spiritually as part of our spiritual growth through our role in community.

PERSONAL SPIRITUALITY & 'OTHERS'

As a 'living stone' in the temple of God

(1Peter 2:5)

- What is your foundation?
- What is your core theology?
- Who supports you?
- Who do you support?
- Who is there beside you?



DEVELOPING PERSONAL SPIRITUALITY

- Picture yourself as a 'tree' (Psalm 1:3)
 - What Has Caused your Shape?
 - What Nourishes You & How Often?
 - What Needs 'Pruning'?
 - What Fruit are You Producing? (Galatians 5)



RESTORING YOUR SPIRITUAL PASSION

- Passion Dissipates & Needs to be Restored.
- Conditions that Threaten Spiritual Passion: (From "Restoring Your Spiritual Passion" By G. MacDonald)
 - The Drained Condition Elijah in the wilderness (1Kings19:3)
 - The Dried out Condition Running on 'Empty'
 - The Disillusioned Condition Disappointment at Lost Dreams
 - The Defeated Condition Like Peter after Deserting Jesus
 - The Life Condition Moses In the Wilderness.

RESTORING YOUR SPIRITUAL PASSION

- Kinds of people that affect spiritual passion:
 - Resourceful People Ignites our passion
 - Important People Share our passion
 - Trainable People Catches our passion (we ignite them)
 - Nice People Tolerate our passion no input
 - Draining People They sap our passion
- 'Spirits' that destroy spiritual passion:
 - Competitive Jealousy drains our energy
 - Critical Looking for flaws, faults & weaknesses
 - Vain The need to impress others
 - Adversarial How we deal with resentment/opposition

PRAYING WITH & FOR PEOPLE

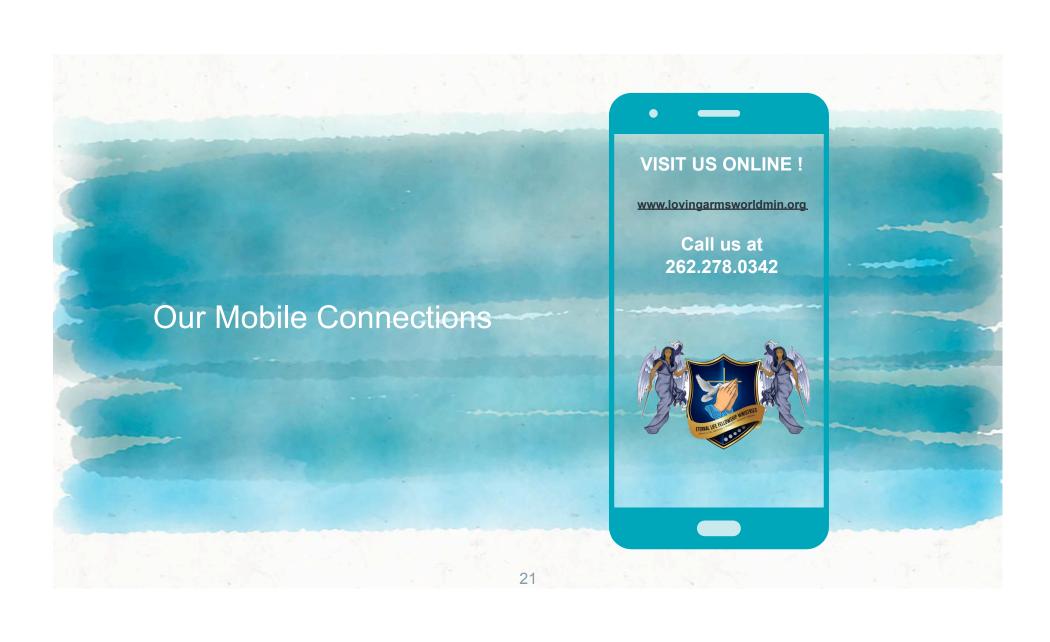
- Minister visits are about Ministry Care and the building up of others' spiritual lives.
- This can be aided through praying for people.
 - Always ask permission before praying (not all want it often because of their context/situation)...
 - Take a written prayer or a Bible verse to help you...
 - Use a well known prayers such as the Lord's Prayer, the 23rd Psalm, the Aaronic blessing (Numbers 6:24-26)
 - Prayers don't need to be long and complicated!

DEVELOPING THE CHURCH'S LIFE OF PRAYER & WORSHIP

- Vital role for Ministers not just for pulpit supply but to encourage congregation participation. (Life Shape Triangle)
- Members can be involved through:
 - Bible readings, leading prayers, in music through instruments or singing,
 - Also producing items for multi-sensory worship such as prayer and visual displays, or discussion items.
 - Don't forget to involve children & young people.
 - Ministers can use feedback from congregation.



You can find me at mlhargett@lovingarmsworldmin.org





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