

1. Take a personal inventory of your prayer life.

Share your responses as you feel comfortable. Rate yourself from 1–5 on each:

- How often do you pray?
1 = rarely or mainly in a crisis | 3 = several times a week | 5 = prayer is a regular part of each day
- How comfortable are you praying with other people?
1 = very uncomfortable | 3 = somewhat comfortable, depending on the setting | 5 = very comfortable
- How often do you fast as part of prayer?
1 = never | 3 = occasionally | 5 = regularly
- How persistent are you when a prayer seems unanswered?
1 = I tend to give up quickly | 3 = I continue for a while but can become discouraged | 5 = I keep asking, seeking, and knocking
- How expectantly do you pray?
1 = I rarely expect God to act | 3 = I believe God can act but sometimes struggle to expect it | 5 = I pray with genuine expectation that God hears and responds

What does this inventory reveal about where you most want to grow?

2. What most gets in the way of prayer in your life?

What are the biggest obstacles that keep you from praying more or praying more deeply? What would actually need to change for your prayer life to grow?

3. Is there something you once prayed for but eventually stopped praying about?

Why did you stop? Looking back, was it right to let that prayer go, or might Jesus be inviting you to begin asking again?

4. Practice bold, persistent, expectant prayer.

Have each person who is willing name one significant need for which they would like prayer. Choose one or more of these needs and pray together—boldly asking God to act, persistently bringing the need before him, and expectantly trusting the goodness of your Father.

5. Ask for the greatest gift.

Jesus ends this teaching by promising that the Father will “give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him” (Luke 11:13). Close by asking together for more of the Holy Spirit—for deeper intimacy with God, greater awareness of his presence, and greater openness to his work in your lives. Ask. Seek. Knock.

6. Pray together for our church.

RF is currently praying for the Spirit's leading about where we will meet in 2027. Please include this important need in your prayers today:

- Pray for the leadership and pastoral teams to have discernment of the Spirit's will.
- Pray for clarity and a convergence of faith as we discern together.
- Pray for freedom from fear and anxiety, and for openness to what God may be doing among us right now.
- Pray that God would provide clear open and closed doors.
- Pray that we would be bold, patient, and expectant, trusting God to lead us in his timing.

A word about praying aloud:

Some people feel shy or awkward praying in front of others. That is completely fine. Prayer does not require eloquence, and short prayers are wonderful. No one should feel pressured or judged. But if praying aloud is new for you and you feel ready, consider taking a small step today—even a simple one-sentence prayer.