

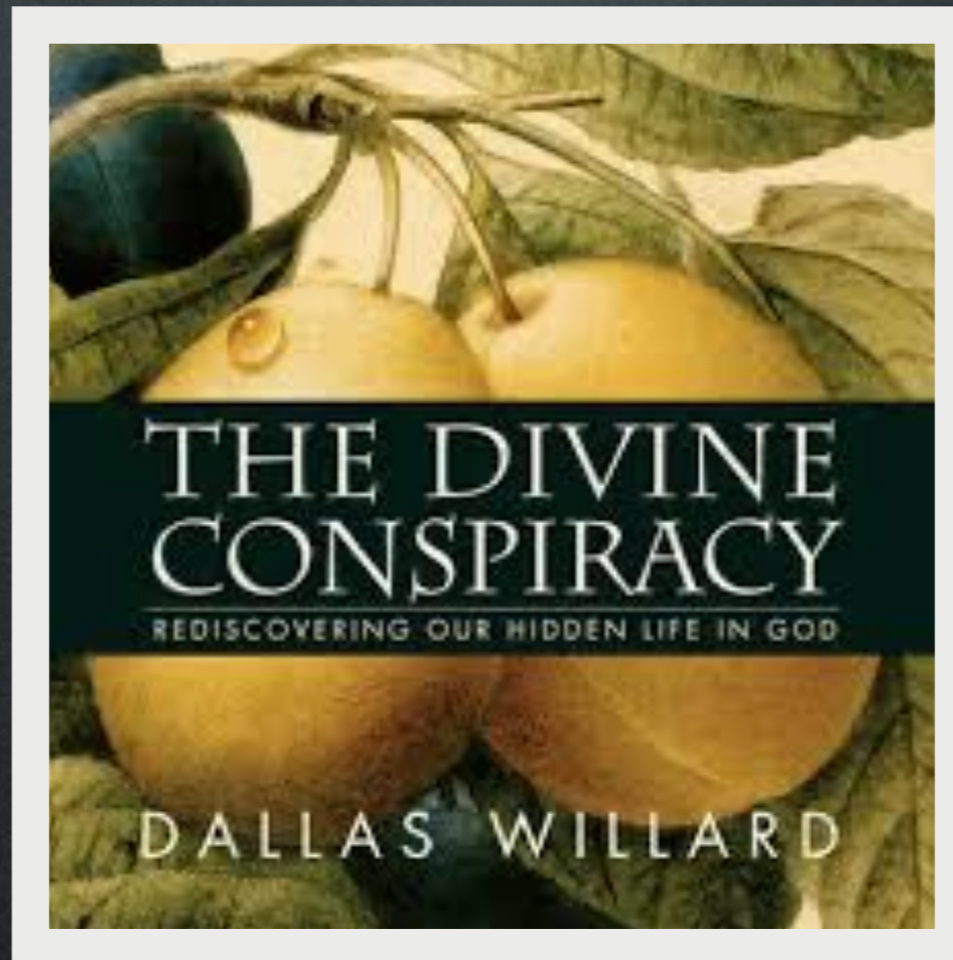
WELCOME to a 31 week Course sponsored by
Dallas Willard Ministries & Jesus College



THE DIVINE CONSPIRACY

Chapter 7 - “The Community of Prayerful Love”

Session 21 - “Prayer in the Cosmic Setting”



THE DIVINE CONSPIRACY

REVIEW Session 20 - “Good as Deadly; Community & Request ”

“Condemnation Engineering”

As long as I’m condemning my friends or relatives, or pushing my “pearls” on them, I’m their problem. (231)



Prayer - Asking God - is the basic answer to the urgent need we all feel to influence others for good. Our confidence in God is the only thing that makes it possible to treat others as they should be treated. (235)

Kingdom Praying



Jesus answered and said to him,

“If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word;
and My Father will love him, and We will come
to him and make Our home with him.”

John 14:23



Session 21 - "Prayer in the Cosmic Setting"

On Not Getting What We Ask For

Two types of causation:

- 1) Under our control
- 2) Not under our control - Works thru request

Jesus did not just fix Peter.

He prayed, "That your faith may not die." (Luke 22:32)

Perhaps no other scene in all of scripture
forcefully portrays the community of
prayerful love as this response to Peter. (240)

Heroism is totally out of place in the spiritual life.

Dallas Willard

The Divine Conspiracy, p. 241

Session 21 - "Prayer in the Cosmic Setting"

7 Teachings on Kingdom Praying

- 1) **Prayer is Basically Request** — Art of A.S.K.ing
Talking to God about what we are doing together.
(243)
- 2) **Praying Life** — Praise and Thanksgiving
accompany vital prayer. (243)
- 3) **Changing God** — Praying through the No's
 - * *Moses reasoned with God — Exodus 32*
What will the Egyptians think? You promised!
 - * *Hezekiah — II Kings 19:8-37*
He prayed, turned his face to the wall, wept, reasoned.

7 Teachings on Kingdom Praying (continued)

4) **A Universe Responsive to Personality:** *Thought & Desire & Will*

Our universe is a world that responds to *desire & will*.¹

Desire and will influence physical reality by simply *desiring and willing* it to behave in a certain way.²

Prayer is an expression of *thought, will & desire*. Personality in its human form has effects—through appropriate exertions of *thought, will & desire*—that work beyond the familiar channels of physical causation.³

Prayer is coming to a person and asking that they do something that one cannot* do oneself.⁴ [*-“Grace” help.]

Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him." John 14:23

"With Moses, I speak to him mouth to mouth, even openly, without riddles..." Numbers 12:7-8

7 Teachings on Kingdom Praying (continued)

5) Prayer Trains Us to Reign - Prayer teaches us to govern, to reign with Him in His Kingdom. Prayer is a means of forming character. It combines freedom & power with service & love. What God gets out of our lives is simply the person we become. It is God's intention that we should grow into the kind of person he could empower to do what we want to do. (250)

“They [we] will reign forever and ever” Revelation 22:5

7 Teachings on Kingdom Praying (continued)

6) Prayer teaches us to wait for God to move.

Jesus emphatically taught that we are to stay with the request. Luke 11:5-6; 18:1ff (251)

...expect prayer to proceed in the manner of a relationship between persons.

Prayer is never a mechanism.

It is always a personal negotiation.


(252)

One day Jesus told his disciples a story to show that they should always pray and never give up. 2 “There was a judge in a certain city,” he said, “who neither feared God nor cared about people. 3 A widow of that city came to him repeatedly, saying, ‘Give me justice in this dispute with my enemy.’ 4 The judge ignored her for a while, but finally he said to himself, ‘I don’t fear God or care about people, 5 but this woman is driving me crazy. I’m going to see that she gets justice, because she is wearing me out with her constant requests!’”

6 Then the Lord said, “Learn a lesson from this unjust judge.”

Luke 18:1-6

7 Teachings on Kingdom Praying (continued)



7) **God's Dignity** - God is the Most Moved Mover...the One who lives with us and whom we approach from within the community of prayerful love.

(253)



Session 21
Prayer in the Cosmic Setting

“A Late Night Persistent Request”

The Divine Conspiracy Lecture 12 @ 1:07:25 - 1:10:05



Q&C

Your Questions & Comments are welcome!

(Use the Q&A on the bottom of your Zoom screen)



Q&A

Meditation — Luke 11:1-8

In the next 10,000 minutes...

Q — How do I define “prayer” in light of a Father who loves me and wants to be at home with me?

Q — What are the top 3 obstacles for me “talking to God about what we are doing together”?

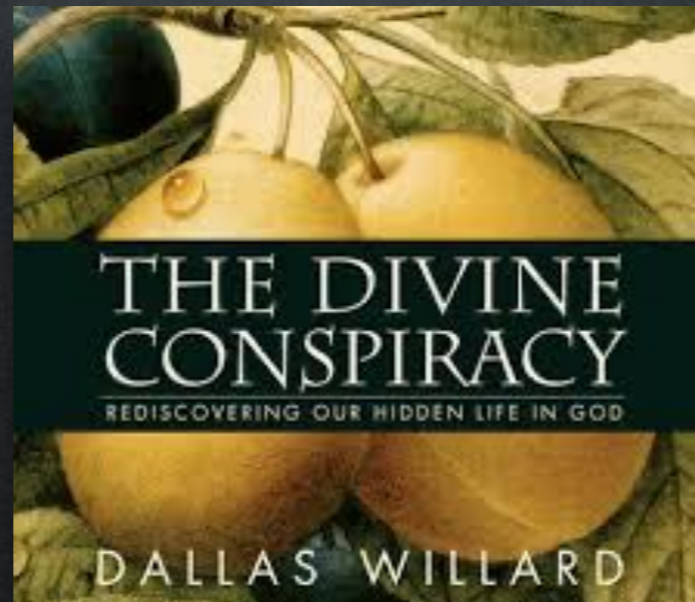
Q — Would I consider practicing the discipline of journaling a prayer every day this week?



Session 21 Summary

Prayer is simply talking to God
about what we are doing together.
(243)

*And that changes me, changes God,
and changes community.*



80:00 + 10K



“The Divine Conspiracy Lectures”

Dallas Willard Ministries YouTube Channel

The Harvey Fellows 2004 Summer Institute

[12-part video series link](#)

Course Session 21 * Recommended Teachings

“Prayer” [DC #12 56:20-1:16:00](#)

(119) pages of lecture notes in the Jesus College Library

<https://www.jesuscollege.com/dallaswillard-thedivineconspiracy>

* See the Course reading schedule for related teachings

Next Week — Session 22

Chapter 7 - “The Community of Prayerful Love”

“The Grandest Prayer of All”

Hardback - pp. 253-269

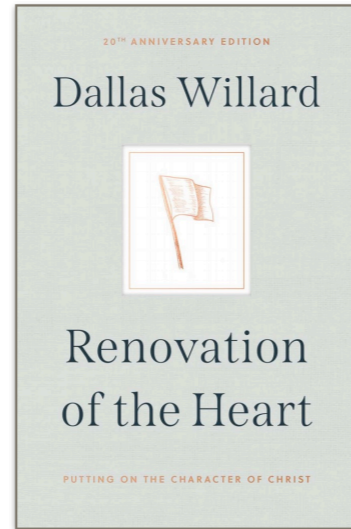
Paperback - pp. 279-296

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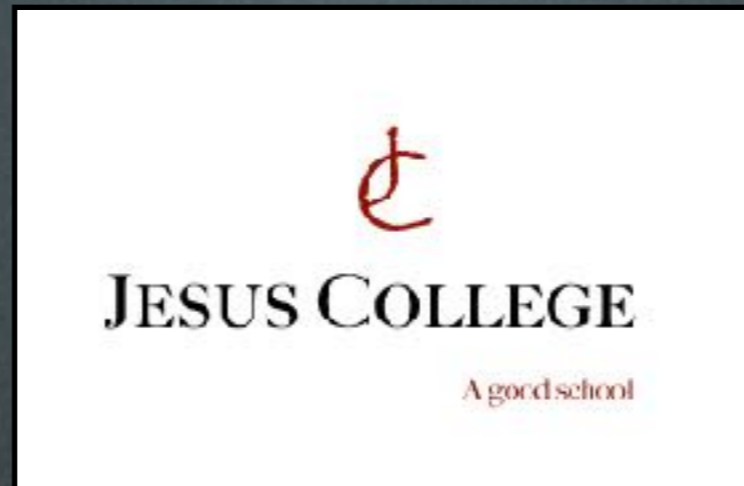
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