

# F+BC TODAY

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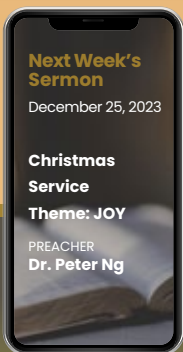
Physical Classes

8:45am / 11:15am



# Book Review: A Praying Church

I enjoyed reading "A Praying Church- A Refreshing Guide to Deepening Your Prayer Life" by Paul E. Miller, which helped me revive my personal prayer life. This book is an insightful and thought-provoking guide that helped me to gracefully navigate the complexity of prayer. This book helped me cultivate a stronger, more connected relationship with God.



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If you want to revive your prayer life, Paul E. Miller's "A Praying Church" is a must-read. Miller offers essential insights to individuals and communities alike. The book focuses on five critical issues:

1. **Authenticity in Prayer:** A true, heartfelt communication with God is essential. I was encouraged to approach prayer as a conversation, rather than a religious duty.
2. **Dependence on God:** The book highlights our deep need for God's guidance and intervention in every aspect of our lives. The author illustrates how prayer allows us to lean on God's strength, wisdom, and provision.
3. **Perseverance and Patience:** Through vivid personal stories and biblical examples, the author reflects on the necessity of persistent prayer. I learned that the more we address the struggles we face when waiting for God's timing, the more we need to practically pray to stay faithful in how we live.
4. **Community Prayer:** Miller advocates for communal prayer as an integral part of a thriving church. He provides guidance on fostering a culture of prayer within congregations, creating a supportive environment for believers.
5. **Praying Through Suffering:** The book covers the difficult topic of prayer in the midst of pain and suffering. Reading this book helped me understand how to find solace, comfort, and strength in God's presence through tough circumstances.

Despite being a gold mine of knowledge, I find that some present practices discussed in this book might contradict common Christian prayer practices today:

**Embracing Vulnerability:** the author encourages readers to be open and authentic in their prayers, even when it feels uncomfortable. This may require breaking away from traditional or rehearsed prayers.

**Longer, Unstructured Prayers:** The book advocates for unhurried, extended times of prayer, which may differ from the rapid, bullet-point style prayers popular in today's fast-paced culture.

**Persistent Prayer in Community:** Miller urges the importance of consistent, communal prayer within a church. This may call for a shift in priorities and a deeper commitment to collective spiritual growth.

Overall, "A Praying Church" offers a refreshing perspective on prayer, providing practical guidance for believers seeking a deeper, more meaningful connection with God. The author's friendly and compassionate writing style made this book an invaluable resource for my desire to cultivate a richer prayer life.



**Written by Rhalyn David Morgenroth**  
*Rhalyn serves in the Logos Library Ministry*





## **A Prayer for the Third Sunday of Advent**

O Lord Jesus Christ, you sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise make ready your way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient toward the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world, we may be found a people acceptable in your sight; for with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, now and for ever. Amen.