

ARTICLE

BOOK REVIEW: A PRAYING LIFE

PRAYER SPOTLIGHT

DELTA MINISTRY

FBCToday

UNLEASHING THE GOSPEL



BOOK REVIEW: A PRAYING LIFE BY PAUL E. MILLER (2017)

The opening chapter of Paul E. Miller's "A Praying Life," titled "What Good Does it Do?" completely captivated me as I flipped through the pages. He was describing my own feelings - the guilt, the hopelessness, and the despair

I felt about prayer. Questions like "Do I really mean it?", "Something must be wrong with me," and "Others don't seem to have this trouble praying" resonated deeply. It felt as though Paul Miller knew my struggles.

NEXT WEEK'S SERMON

20 July 2025

Life in the Spirit: Producing the Fruit

Galatians 5:19-24

Preacher
John Lee

GIVING

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The author shared his own challenges and convictions about prayer.

As I continued reading, I realized that God, in His mercy, was taking me through the basic lessons on prayer – lessons I had forgotten or disregarded in my journey. Chapters 3–8 were a huge reminder of the openness of our Father's heart, who longs for His children to approach Him just as they are— weary, needy, numb, anxious, and more. In fact, Chapter 5, "Spending Time with Your Father," was a sharp rebuke to me. I had become too confident in my own ability to undertake ministry, forgetting that time in prayer with God was the most effective antidote to the anxiety of not having enough time or wisdom to get things done. Our Father was inviting me to a life of helpless dependence on Him – a childlike faith. Further along in the book, I was reminded that prayer is actually feisty – being confident in the goodness of God, trusting in His deliverance, engaging with evil, and asking God to act mightily against it.

Some may find his writing style too anecdotal at times. For me, I found his personal stories resonating as he shared his experiences with raising a special needs child. How God was always present with the author, even when he was doing wrong. And how can one be an "oldie" and still struggle with intimate prayer?

My biggest takeaway was in the middle section, Chapters 19–27, "Living in Your Father's Story." I often despair about unanswered prayers. Has God turned His face against me? I learned that God often takes us through the desert because He wants to transform us. The desert walk is a process to reveal our real thirsts, our hopelessness, and to know the feast that God has prepared for us. In the words of the author,

"WHEN WE DON'T RECEIVE WHAT WE PRAY FOR OR DESIRE, IT DOESN'T MEAN THAT GOD ISN'T ACTING ON OUR BEHALF. RATHER, HE IS WEAVING HIS STORY" (PG 171).

Turning to Colossians 4:2, we are told,

**"CONTINUE STEADFASTLY
IN PRAYER, BEING
WATCHFUL IN IT WITH
THANKSGIVING."**

I am learning to be watchful and thankful, to wait and be alert to God unfolding His grace. To take God's help in asking the right questions - questions that invite God to rule in my life.

In the closing chapters, the author shared a prayer tool - prayer cards. I must admit that I got confused when I tried his method. My cards became unmanageable. Maybe in the coming seminar, "A Praying Life," I may pick up more information about the use of prayer cards.

If you found this review intriguing, I warmly invite you to attend the "A Praying Life" seminar on August 9th at FBC. It promises to be an enriching experience where we can learn more about deepening our prayer lives together. Register with the QR code.

I hope to see you there!



By Phyllis Yew

Phyllis is the head of the Prayer Ministry and is the secretary of the Board

A PRAYING LIFE SEMINAR

with Jon H.

August 9 | 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM
First Baptist Church Subang Jaya

**THIS SEMINAR IS FOR THE WEARY CHRISTIANS TO COME
TO JESUS JUST AS YOU ARE - OVERWHELMED AND MESSY.**

COME TO ME, ALL WHO LABOR
AND ARE HEAVY LADEN, AND I
WILL GIVE YOU REST.

MATTHEW 11:28

SCAN TO REGISTER:





PRAYER FOR DELTA MINISTRY

1. Inaugural Meeting Attendance

- Pray for a strong and encouraging turnout at the inaugural meeting on 27th July, that God would stir hearts to participate and unite in this new ministry.

2. Wisdom for the Planning Committee

- Lift up the planning committee—led by John Lee and Alex Tan, with Elder Arnold as Advisor, and supported by Kai Xian, Wai Keong, Andrew & Penny, and Calvin & Moi Cheong.
- Pray for divine wisdom, clear guidance, and abundant grace as they lay the foundation for this ministry.

3. Purpose of the Inaugural Meeting

- Pray that the gathering will foster open sharing among working-age believers—whether in business, corporate, or other vocations—so their needs and insights can help shape the ministry's roadmap.
- May this meeting set a strong, Spirit-led direction for future events and fellowship.