



SOUTHBRIDGE  
COMMUNITY CHURCH

## “Conversations with God”

Sunday, April 13, 2008

*Pastor Darin Poli*

### Luke 11:1 (NLT)

Once when Jesus had been out praying, one of his disciples came to him as he finished and said, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples."

### 3 Foundations

1. There is potential in prayer that I have yet to experience.

\_\_\_\_\_

2. The idea of a “back and forth” conversation with God is both \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ to me.

3. Past difficulties or lack of experience does NOT limit my \_\_\_\_\_ in prayer.

### Matthew 6:5-13 (NLT)

“And now about prayer. When you pray, don't be like the hypocrites who love to pray publicly on street corners and in the synagogues where everyone can see them. I assure you, that is all the reward they will ever get. 6 But when you pray, go away by yourself, shut the door behind you, and pray to your Father secretly. Then your Father, who knows all secrets, will reward you. 7 When you pray, don't babble on and on as people of other religions do. They think their prayers are answered only by repeating their words again and again.

8 Don't be like them, because your Father knows exactly what you need even before you ask him! 9 Pray like this: Our Father in heaven, may your name be honored 10 May your Kingdom come soon. May your will be done here on earth, just as it is in heaven. 11 Give us our food for today, 12 and forgive us our sins, just as we have forgiven those who have sinned against us. 13 And don't let us yield to temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.”

### Conversation Boundaries

1. Method may bring \_\_\_\_\_ into question.

v. 5 “And now about prayer. When you pray, don't be like the hypocrites who love to pray publicly on street corners and in the synagogues where everyone can see them. I assure you, that is all the reward they will ever get.”

2. Practical Application = \_\_\_\_\_

v. 6a But when you pray, go away by yourself...

3. Practical Application = A \_\_\_\_\_ place

v. 6b ...shut the door behind you...

4. Practical Application = \_\_\_\_\_ conversation

v. 6c ...and pray to your Father secretly.

5. God's heart is to \_\_\_\_\_ me!

v. 6d Then your Father, who knows all secrets, will reward you.

### Personal Action Steps

- Have I ever invested significant time praying “Jesus, teach me how to pray effectively.”?
- When I feel my prayers are going “unanswered,” how does that affect me?
- What about the 3 Foundations inspires me? Challenges me?