

1. Describe a recent prayer that you've seen the Lord answer. Why did you pray that way? How did God answer the prayer? Was it according to your expectations or otherwise?
2. Read Psalm 127:1–2. What does Solomon describe as vanity? How does our culture tend to get caught up in building and watching and striving? Why do you think this is our conditioned response to needs? Why is it sometimes so difficult to pray?
3. Read Psalm 127:3–5. How does the Lord provide for those who trust him?
4. Read Matthew 7:7–11. What exhortation does Jesus make regarding prayer? Why do you think prayer mattered so much to Jesus for his own life and ministry? Why did he teach us to pray?
5. How can you make prayer more than a bookend this year? Take some quiet time to talk to God about it. Ask him to help you to pray more. Confess your dependence on him for all things. And then, write down how prayer will become more a part of your life and story this year.