

## **Introduction**

### 3. Private and Public

## **The Importance of Values**

## **How we Pray**

⇒ To the Father

⇒ Through Jesus

⇒ Spirit-empowered

⇒ Alignment

⇒ By grace

⇒ Comprehensive

⇒ Freedom

## **The Call to Prayer**

## **Prayer in the Church**

### **What is Prayer**

#### 1. Communication

### Personal Prayer

#### 2. Different Expressions

### Public Prayer

## **Diving Deeper into Prayer** (for personal or group use)

### **Personal Prayer:**

*Philippians 4:6-7:* What does this passage teach us about prayer as a response to anxiety?

*Matthew 6:9-13:* How does Jesus model prayer? How can the Lord's Prayer guide your daily conversations with God?

### **Public Prayer**

*Acts 4:24-31:* How did the early church's corporate prayer reflect their faith and reliance on God?

*2 Chronicles 7:14:* What does this verse teach about the relationship between humility, prayer, and God's response?

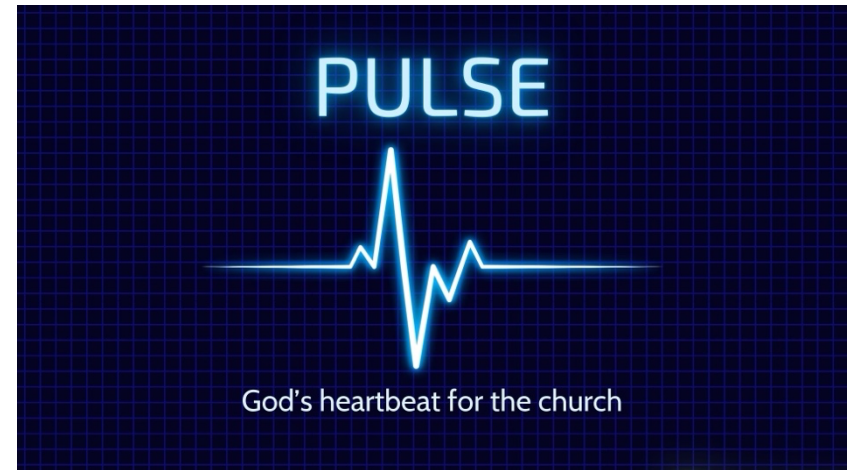
### **Discussion Questions:**

1. Why is prayer often described as a "battle"? How does this perspective change the way we approach prayer in daily life?
2. Is there a biblical expression of prayer (e.g. crying out, lifting holy hands, walking with God etc.) that is helpful to you?
3. In what ways have you experienced prayer connecting you more deeply to God's heart?
4. How can we align our prayers with God's will instead of merely presenting our desires?
5. What are some practical ways to grow in both private and public prayer? Share what has worked for you.
6. How does understanding the relational nature of prayer (Father, Son, and Spirit) deepen its significance?
7. Do you think prayer is demonstrated as a central value of Westburne? Why do you think this?
8. How can we together as the more fully embody prayer in the life of the local church?

### **Application:**

*Personal Prayer:* Set aside 10-15 minutes daily to prayer this week. Use the ACTS model (Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication). Journal your prayers.

*Group Prayer:* Spend time in your group praying for one another, your church, and the community or plan to prayer walk your neighbourhood.



## **THE CENTRALITY OF PRAYER**

January 5, 2025

Sermon Notes & Discussion Guide