



Chapter Two: Devotional Three

Hello Friend!

Welcome to week two of the study "Leveling the Praying Field" based on the book by Donna L. Barrett. We hope that you are growing in your prayer life! This week we will cover Chapters Two and Three. Hopefully we will be able to debunk some of the obstacles that hinder us from praying. So let's get started with the video and then the devotional!



[Click Video to Play](#)

The Reason People Don't Pray

In Chapter Two, Donna Barrett, shares many reasons why people don't pray. At some point in life they may have gotten the idea that God is waiting to grant their wishes. They may have been disappointed when their request did not get granted in the way they anticipated.

We know God hears us when we ask for anything that pleases Him (1 John 5:14). This means, instead of asking God for what we want, we can flip this around and ask God what He wants for us.

This new way of thinking helps us to realize prayer is not about activating God to “work” for us. Prayer is having a special conversation with God about His will for us.

Excerpt from Leveling the Praying Field:

“We can get overly focused on the communication tool instead of the Person to whom we speak and the conversations we enjoy. When we say things like 'I felt the prayers,' maybe what we really mean is we felt God’s help and closeness in response to your prayers for us. Or when we say, “Prayer works,” maybe what we mean is that God helps us when we talk to Him. When a person says, 'Prayer doesn’t work,' maybe what they mean is God responded differently than they expected or hoped” p. 46-47

God wants us to pray with confidence in His love and care. We can trust that God will do the work in His will and His timing, even when we don’t see it.

Hebrew 11:39-40 says, “These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised, since God had planned something better for us so that only together with us would they be made perfect”

Trust God that He has something better for you than you could ever dream or hope.



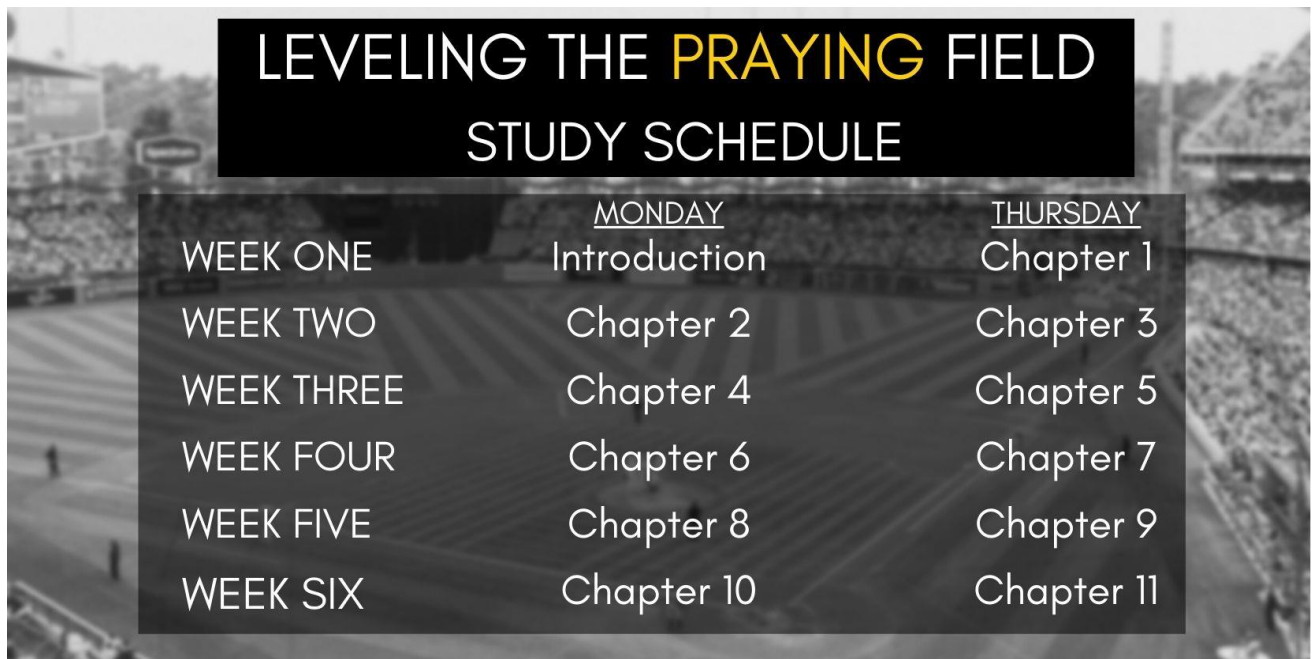
Prayer:

Lord, help me to pray with confidence!
Place a desire in my heart to spend
time with you in conversation. I am
thankful you want to spend time with
me. I am excited to talk with you and
to listen to your voice. I trust you have
the best plan for me. Amen.

Reflection Questions:

- 1) What is satisfying to you about prayer other than receiving an obvious, immediate answer to your prayer?
- 2) How would you pray if your goal was to see God's will accomplished?

Key Thought – *God works through our prayers, even if we can't see the change or it's not in our timing.*



LEVELING THE PRAYING FIELD		
STUDY SCHEDULE		
	<u>MONDAY</u>	<u>THURSDAY</u>
WEEK ONE	Introduction	Chapter 1
WEEK TWO	Chapter 2	Chapter 3
WEEK THREE	Chapter 4	Chapter 5
WEEK FOUR	Chapter 6	Chapter 7
WEEK FIVE	Chapter 8	Chapter 9
WEEK SIX	Chapter 10	Chapter 11