

## PRAYER

SERIES “Prayer”

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### Slide, orientation, Biblical set up

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Mark 12:41–44 - <sup>41</sup> And he sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the offering box. Many rich people put in large sums. <sup>42</sup> And a poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which make a penny. <sup>43</sup> And he called his disciples to him and said to them, “Truly, I say to you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the offering box. <sup>44</sup> For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”

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In a world filled with comparison, competition, and criticism, many of us quietly wrestle with feelings of inadequacy, invisibility, and insignificance. We can begin to wonder whether our lives really matter or if our efforts make any lasting difference. But Scripture tells a different and better story, and today’s passage reveals the heart and values of Jesus...

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Genesis 16:13 – **“The God who sees” (El Roi).**

Psalms 139:1–3 - O LORD, you have searched me and known me! <sup>2</sup> You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar. <sup>3</sup> You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways.

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### FOCUS ONE: (reverence)

Prayer: **“Jesus, thank You that You see and my life matters to You – even when...”**

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### FOCUS TWO: (response)

Brief commentary:

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2 Chronicles 16:9 - For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to give strong support to those whose heart is blameless toward him.

1 Samuel 16:7 - <sup>7</sup> For the LORD sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart.”

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Prayer: **“Forgive me for trying to impress people instead of seeking to please You, especially when...”**

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**Leader:** We confess that our motives can sometimes be a mess  
**Congregation:** Forgive us when people are big and God is small

**Leader:** Give us wisdom and assurance to know that You see  
**Congregation:** May it always be enough to please You alone

**Leader:** For those who feel unseen in their sacrifice...  
**Congregation:** Help us affirm the small and simple acts of obedience.

**Leader:** For those in seasons of scarcity...  
**Congregation:** Be their Provider.

**Leader:** For those entrusted with abundance...  
**Congregation:** Give then growing trust and joyful surrender.

**Leader:** Holy Spirit, teach us to see like Jesus sees.  
**Congregation:** Give us eyes and hearts to recognize quiet faithfulness.

**Leader:** May our lives consistently declare that:  
**Congregation:** Honoring You is all that matters

**Leader:** May our hearts always assure us that...  
**Congregation:** You can be trusted -- and You are enough."

### **FOCUS THREE: (requests)**

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2 Corinthians 8:9 - For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich.

2 Corinthians 9:8 - And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.

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Jesus' concern is not equal amounts but equal sacrifice, empowered by His grace.

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**"Jesus, because You gave Your all for me, give me grace to \_\_\_\_\_"**

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James 1:27 - Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

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**Jesus, lead me to minister to \_\_\_\_\_ this week in their time of need.**

## FOCUS FOUR: (readiness)

When obedience is costly let us trust Christ to help us live to please Him alone—relying on His grace, hoping in His promises, and trusting His sure reward.

**Leader:** We praise You as the God who sees

**Congregation:** And the God who cares

**Leader:** We praise You as the God who acts on our behalf

**Congregation:** You are Our God

**Leader:** Lord, by Your grace make us ready to walk in obedience and faith.

**Congregation:** We have prayed. You will answer

**Leader:** If You call us to obscurity...

**Congregation:** We will embrace it.

**Leader:** If You lead us beyond our comfort zone...

**Congregation:** We will trust You.

**Leader:** If You bless us with greater influence...

**Congregation:** We will steward it humbly.

**Leader:** If You ask for more...

**Congregation:** It is Yours!

**Leader:** Here we are, Lord.

**Congregation:** All we are. All we have. All for You.

**Everyone:** You are worthy! To You be the glory!

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*Please Note: This document is not meant to be a published, cited, annotated research paper. It is simply a transcript of a spoken message, provided as a resource. Many commentaries, articles, and other sermon helps were likely studied and contributed to the forming of this message.*