

Chapter 13 — "Lessons in Prayer" (Daniel 9:1-19)

"We do not make requests of you because we are righteous, but because of your great mercy. O Lord, listen! O Lord, forgive! O Lord, hear and act!" — Daniel 9:18b-19

PART I: UNDERSTANDING THE CONTENT

1. Trusting Scripture and Understanding God's Timetable

What Scripture was Daniel studying during the first year of Darius, what did he discover about the seventy years of captivity, and how did God's faithful fulfillment of prophecy inspire Daniel to pray (Dan. 9:1-3)?

NOTES & REFLECTIONS

2. Approaching God in Adoration and Humility

How did Daniel prepare his heart to seek the Lord in prayer, and what aspects of God's character and covenant love did he praise in his opening words of adoration (Dan. 9:3-4)?

NOTES & REFLECTIONS

3. Corporate Confession and Identifying with God's People

When Daniel confessed the sins of his nation, how did he humbly identify himself with God's people, in what specific ways had they turned away, and how did he describe God's mercy even in the midst of their rebellion (Dan. 9:5-11)?

NOTES & REFLECTIONS

4. Acknowledging God's Righteousness in Judgment

Why did Daniel recognize that God was completely righteous in bringing judgment upon Jerusalem, and how does he acknowledge that God's warnings were both clear and intended to bring His people to repentance (Dan. 9:11-14)?

NOTES & REFLECTIONS

5. Petition Grounded in God's Mercy and Reputation

When Daniel poured out his heart for Jerusalem to be restored, what grounds did he base his appeals on, and why did he emphasize that God hears us because of His great mercy rather than any righteousness of our own (Dan. 9:15-19)?

NOTES & REFLECTIONS

PART II: APPLYING THE MATERIAL

6. Fueling Prayer Through God's Word

Daniel's prayer was sparked and shaped by his time reading God's Word. How can integrating regular Bible reading and standing on God's promises transform your own daily prayer life?

NOTES & REFLECTIONS

7. Practicing Corporate and Intercessory Confession

Rather than standing above others, Daniel humbly included himself when confessing the sins of his nation. What does it look like for us to bring the needs and failings of our families, church, or nation before God in humble intercession today?

NOTES & REFLECTIONS

8. Approaching God Without Self-Righteousness

Daniel knew we can never approach God on the basis of our own merit, but only through His incredible grace and mercy. How does this comforting truth change how you pray when you feel unworthy or struggle with failure?

NOTES & REFLECTIONS

9. Prioritizing God's Name and Glory

Throughout his prayer, Daniel repeatedly prayed "for your sake," focusing on God's glory and honor rather than selfish desires. How can you align your personal requests so that God's name and reputation are central?

NOTES & REFLECTIONS

10. Moving Beyond Petition to True Fellowship

The A.C.T.S. model reminds us that true prayer is so much more than just asking for things—it's genuine fellowship with God. Which of these areas (Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication) do you want to cultivate more deeply in your prayer walk this week?

NOTES & REFLECTIONS