



Vision and Commitment 2018  
A year to focus on discipleship

Every day, in  
everything  
&  
everywhere

## ‘Putting First’ (Prioritising) (Mark 6:45-46)

### Corporate Prayer

Father, I realise that there are times when I am so busy that often I am guilty of saying I have no time to pray. Yet when I spend time with you in prayer, I feel re-energised and I hear you speaking to me through your word. Those are the moments that give me the courage to face what lies ahead of me.

As your disciple, I cannot say I have no time to pray. I cannot do your work unless I pray. Jesus was so busy with the demands of the crowds that flocked around him, but he left them and looked for places of solitude to commune with you, away from all that would distract him. Without spending time with his Father, he could not have done his Father’s will. He needed to be re-energised and given the courage to face what was ahead of him.

I, too, need that place of solitude, away from all that would distract me, so I can commune with you, to grow in my relationship with you as one of your disciples. Father, thank you for loving me so much that you desire this relationship with me. Amen.

### Prayer Activities

- *You will need: pieces of thread, small colourful beads, scissors*

Cut a piece of thread to go around your wrist. Tie one end and choose some beads to make a prayer band. Once it is firmly tied to your wrist, use it as a reminder to pray throughout the day. Additionally, you could set a ‘prayer alarm’ either on your phone or watch, to go off at hourly intervals.

As you are reminded to pray, tell God of your desire to spend the day with him, taking time to be in his presence, rejoicing, praying and giving thanks.

- Listen to the song ‘As the Deer’ or read the words (SASB 571).  
As you meditate on the words, imagine you are sitting beside a clean, cool, freshwater stream. Imagine you are very thirsty. You reach down and draw the water to your mouth. Taste it. Enjoy the refreshment it brings as it trickles down your throat. Then pray that God will help make that the image for your soul.  
(From 7 Spiritual Habits That Can Change your Life by Joey Clifton)





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- Consider keeping a prayer journal of your prayers. Keep one page for prayer requests and the opposite page for answers to prayer.
- Make a prayer space in your corps or home. Keep your Bible, devotional books, music and perhaps a small cross and candle there to help you focus on God.

## Prayer Points

- Pray for God to increase our desire to spend time in his presence.
- Pray for the discipline to overcome the distractions that would take us away from being in God's presence through prayer and his word.
- Pray that, as his disciples, God would grant us the persistence to keep on meeting with him.
- Pray that, as disciples, we would experience the transformation of character that comes through being in Jesus' presence.

