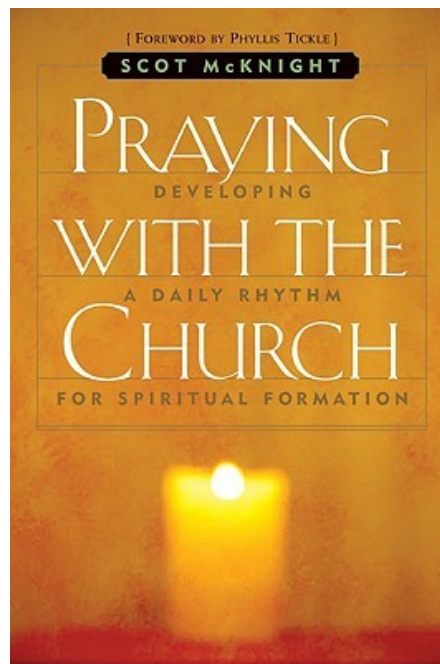




Praying with the Church: Following Jesus Daily, Hourly, Today

Scot McKnight

Download now

Read Online ➔

Praying with the Church: Following Jesus Daily, Hourly, Today

Scot McKnight

Praying with the Church: Following Jesus Daily, Hourly, Today Scot McKnight

Scot McKnight, best-selling author of *The Jesus Creed*, invites readers to get closer to the heart of Jesus' message by discovering the ancient rhythms of daily prayer at the heart of the early church. "This is the old path of praying as Jesus prayed," McKnight explains, "and in that path, we learn to pray along with the entire Church and not just by ourselves as individuals." *Praying with the Church* is written for all Christians who desire to know more about the ancient devotional traditions of the Christian faith, and to become involved in their renaissance today.

With his trademark style of getting right to the heart of theological concepts through practical, witty, and memorable examples from everyday life, Scot invites readers to explore: How Jesus prayed, How the Psalms teach us to pray, How Orthodox Christians pray, How Roman Catholics pray, How Anglicans pray, How The Divine Hours of Phyllis Tickle teaches us to pray, And, how praying with the church is an essential part of spiritual formation.

For more information on Phyllis Tickle's Divine Hours [click here](#)

Praying with the Church: Following Jesus Daily, Hourly, Today Details

Date : Published May 1st 2006 by Paraclete Press (first published January 1st 2006)

ISBN : 9781557254818

Author : Scot McKnight

Format : Paperback 176 pages

Genre : Prayer, Religion, Theology, Spirituality, Faith, Christian

 [Download Praying with the Church: Following Jesus Daily, Hourly, ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Praying with the Church: Following Jesus Daily, Hourl ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Praying with the Church: Following Jesus Daily, Hourly, Today Scot McKnight

From Reader Review Praying with the Church: Following Jesus Daily, Hourly, Today for online ebook

Matt Bianco says

This book makes some compelling arguments for the hour of prayers, good book.

Callie says

An introduction to fixed hour prayer, and praying WITH the church, for beginners. The prayer traditions of the Orthodox, Catholic, and Anglican churches are described, along w/a brief introduction to Phyllis Tickle's "The Divine Hours" which can be found here:

<http://www.explorefaith.org/prayer/pr...>

This book is a very practical manual on getting started. Especially for those in the low church tradition who grew up thinking that spontaneous prayers were the only ones of value; praying as Jesus did, using the Psalms, is a valuable practice too.

Allison says

Scot McKnight take us through his impressions of the Orthodox, Roman Catholic, Anglican and Modern prayer books, encouraging the reader to expand his/her prayer life from spontaneous prayers, to praying 'with the church' following written prayers and joining centuries and cultures worldwide in their worship. Some practical suggestions in the conclusion, but overall it was very basic and just so-so. (It was a free book and a quick read).

Krista says

McKnight explores the prayer traditions of historical Christianity including Eastern Orthodoxy, Anglicanism, Catholicism, and the prayers of Jesus Himself. Actually, "explores" is too much -- it actually seemed to be a brief overview, and was a little too simplistic for me. Still, it was a nice introduction into the traditions born in the past, and how they can enrich and inform the prayer lives of Christians today.

Scott Wieking says

Eye opening. Refreshing. Gives the Christ-follower a way forward in prayer that was formerly closed off to him/her.

Joyce says

Like author McKnight, I grew up in a church that didn't "pray other people's prayers". It was not until we spent a couple of years attending an Anglican church in the UK that I became more familiar with fixed prayers. I began to see the value of adding prewritten prayers to my practice of spontaneous prayer. Praying with the Church is an excellent guide to the different prayer books that are available and gives good advice on how to add them to your prayer life.

James McGowen says

An interesting overview of the Divine Office for Christians of many different denominations, especially Orthodox, Catholic and Anglican. The author sees the use of the Divine Office as a way of "praying with the church" and using the different prayer books of all churches is a sure-fire way of doing so.

Rick Lee Lee James says

Wonderful Prayer Resource

No matter what tradition you come from I believe you will find this book a helpful manual on how to pray and how to deepen your prayer life. Wonderful, wonderful resource.

Michael Philliber says

Prayer. Sounds like a harmless enough word. People pray in all sorts of ways, whether in gasps of ejaculated cries for help in a crisis, or in planned "quiet time" moments, or in coordinated settings of congregational worship. Yet, in my years of being a pastor, I find that probably most Christians struggle with how to pray, how to generate enough energy, tenacity and creativity to sustain a "prayer life". In my experience part of the problem comes with the notion that all of my prayers need to be of my own crafting. I, personally, have only so much in the area of creative juices, and then I run dry. One remedial question to ask is, do I have to always concoct my own prayers for them to be real? Scot McKnight, professor of New Testament at Northern Baptist Theological Seminary, resoundingly says "No!" in his 176 page paperback titled, "Praying with the Church: Following Jesus Daily, Hourly, Today." McKnight builds a case that makes a nice distinction between "praying in the church" (personal, extemporaneous prayers prayed whenever) and "praying with the church" (crafted, traditional prayers from prayer books, prayed at set times). This simple read is for layperson and pastor alike.

In the first segment of "Praying with the Church" McKnight explains his distinction, and pulls together biblical precedent for using the Church's prayers and doing so at the set times traditionally used during daily prayer. The author claims that as we do this we "are joining hands and hearts with millions of other Christians to say the same thing at the same time. By doing this, we are creating in our lives a sacred rhythm of prayer" (2). In this way we are interacting in one aspect of communal spiritual formation where we "are formed together as we learn to pray together" (38). There are times to pray spontaneously, offering petitions for things close to home and for people close to the heart. Then there are appropriate times to implore God's care and mercy, using prayers that remind us that we are involved in the Church of Jesus Christ world over.

McKnight's point is well taken. In a narcissistic nation of personal selfies and private subjectivity, daily rising up to pray with and for the Church can be a medicinal tonic that fuels praying with new freshness. This is, in my mind, the best and most helpful part of the book.

The second segment of "Praying with the Church" is more a biographical tale of McKnight's employment of various prayer books; the Orthodox "Manual of Eastern Orthodox Prayers," the Roman Catholic "Liturgy of the Hours," the Anglican "Book of Common Prayer," and Phyllis Tickle's "The Divine Hours". Most of each individual chapter is an explanation as to the use of a specific prayer book, and a forewarning of things a reader might find hard to swallow. Yet throughout, the author reminds his readers why taking this adventure may propel them further up and further on. Though this portion of the book will give some readers fodder to feed on and courage to "dabble" in new things, nevertheless others will be disappointed. I imagine that in the end the Orthodox will "harumph" and write that chapter off as not Orthodox enough; that the Roman Catholic will shake their heads in dissatisfaction and dismiss that chapter as not Catholic enough; and that the Anglicans will smile, nod their heads knowingly and discount that chapter as not Anglican enough. The only person who may well be excited and cheer with glee will be Phyllis Tickle, who likely appreciates the extra coverage her books receive and the free advertisement.

All said, "Praying with the Church" has subtle, soothing strengths and disappointing, dissatisfying drawbacks. Those who may benefit the most from this little tool will be just about anyone who finds their prayers stilted and stumbling and who long to pray anew, both in the Church and with the Church. Pick up a copy and take it out for a spin.

Makeesha Fisher says

This is a fantastic quick read for anyone who feels their prayer life is lacking. Protestants esp. will benefit from a fresh view on set hour praying and praying others' prayers.

Benjamin Vineyard says

A good primer for marking time through prayer. Good intro to various prayer books. The best part: side bar comments about people's experiences with prayer, liturgical seasons, prayer books, and marking sacred time.

Brett says

Beginning with a study of the prayer habits of Jesus, McKnight moves into an overview of several major prayer traditions within the church. In addition to our personal, spontaneous prayers in the church, McKnight argues that Christians should learn to pray with the church – through liturgical prayer traditions. McKnight explores the traditions of Eastern Orthodoxy, Roman Catholicism, Anglicanism, and the ecumenical Book of Hours. Overall, good points, but watered-down, over-simplified. B-

Tom says

Scott McKnight has done it again! The man is just a stud. One of the best books on prayer itself that I have

read in a long time. Not everybody will dig this book but it had to be on this blog because...well, just because....IT ROCKS! The church I grew up in emphasized spontaneous, primarily private prayer. And while that certainly has its place and benefit...it misses out on a long, rich tradition of the historical church. That is, set prayers at set hours of the day. He sets up his argument that set prayers at set times has been around since the Old Testament. Psalm 55 says, "But I call upon God, and the LORD will save me. Evening and morning and at noon I utter my complaint and moan, and he will hear my voice." Daniel in the book of Daniel chapter 6 states that he got down on his knees three times a day to pray to God. Jesus, being a good first century Jew would have joined with the nation of Israel in prayers to God at set times. A document, called the Didache, which was an early manual on Christian life from around the turn of the first century (after the time of Jesus), said that Christ-followers prayed the Lord's Prayer three times a day.

He sets out giving us a typical Jewish prayer day and then says, based on what Jesus taught, what Christ-followers prayer day might look like. Then he moves into how Orthodox Christians pray and the prayer books they use, how Roman Catholics pray and the prayer books they use, and how Anglicans pray and the books they use. Finally he talks about a great prayer book for beginners to use who are new to this type of praying - the Divine Hours by Phyllis Tickle.

This is a wonderfully insightful book. That challenged me page after page. I have incorporated set prayers and set times into my daily praying and it is pretty neat for a number of reasons. First, it does keep me focused quite a bit better than just spontaneously praying. Second, for the most part, I am praying Scripture. Third, many of these prayers are rooted in ancient history (the scriptural prayers and the non-scriptural prayers). Fourth, I get to pray prayers from several different traditions (Orthodox, Catholic, Anglican). Which, fifth, and finally, is the main thrust of McKnight's book - it keeps me praying with the church. Knowing that at approximately the same time people all across the world are praying these same prayers and that we are praising God and honoring Him together. Praying with the church. And because of this praying the church universal is being formed for the good of the world. Daily set prayers. A sacred rhythm that has a long rich tradition. And I am glad that I get to be a part of it now.

Nate says

Good intro to fixed-hour prayer in the three major Christian traditions a la Robert Webber. This is the first book I've read of McKnight after reading his blog for a couple of years and dialoging with him through email. He's got a really good ecumenical perspective that boils seemingly diverse traditions down to common ground based on precedent in the Bible.

James says

A protestant apologetic for the use of prayer books and fixed-hour prayers in our devotional life. McKnight explores how Jesus prayed according to Jewish prayer traditions and grounds his argument in the fact that Jesus himself followed prayer rhythms. He then gives an overview of prayer books in the Orthodox, Catholic, Anglican tradition as well as the ecumenical Divine Hours.
