

Dear Sisters,

In our first class we talked about our struggles with prayer and our desires for a more fulfilling prayer life. I shared my testimony of my walk with the Lord. How I had to get to the place where I knew I couldn't be righteous or be released from sin by myself. I had tried on my own and it didn't work. It was only when I really took a look at Ephesians chapter 2, studied it, fasted, prayed and let the Lord teach me, that I finally understood that His grace is sufficient for me. (2 Nephi 11:44) "For we know that it is by grace that we are saved, after all we can do." He took away the things that bound me. His love and joy entered my heart and that was my beginning of a more fulfilling prayer life.

Just having a testimony of the church or the gospel is not enough. The first prayer we need to pray is the prayer of repentance and asking Jesus to be the Lord of our lives. We need a savior, and his name is Jesus. (John 14:6) "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." We are not Restorationists instead of Christians. We are Restorationists in addition to being a Christian!

I encourage each of you to read Ephesians 2:1-10 every day this week and really seek the Lord. Ask him for a "heart knowledge" of His grace and mercy in your life. Focus on Him and getting to know Him better. Also, begin journaling your prayers and your testimonies. This will strengthen you in days to come.

May God bless you this week as we prepare to come together again.

Your sister in Christ,

Becky Stayton