TEN PRAYER BUSTERS

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I. PRAYER BUSTERS

Prayer Buster No. 1: _____

"You want what you don't have, so you scheme and kill to get it. You are jealous for what others have, and you can't possess it, so you fight and quarrel to take it away from them. And yet the reason you don't have what you want is that <u>you don't ask God for it</u>." James 4:2

Prayer Buster No. 2: Not having a personal _____

"But <u>if you stay joined to me</u> and my words remain in you, you may ask any request you like, and it will be granted!" John 15:7

Prayer Buster No. 3_____ requests

"As the time drew near for his return to heaven, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem. ⁵² He sent messengers ahead to a Samaritan village to prepare for his arrival. But they were turned away. The people of the village refused to have anything to do with Jesus because he had resolved to go to Jerusalem. When James and John heard about it, they said to Jesus, 'Lord, should we order down fire from heaven to burn them up?'" But Jesus turned and <u>rebuked them</u>. Luke 9:51-55

Prayer Buster no. 4: Not praying ______.

"And we can be confident that he will listen to us whenever we ask him for anything <u>in line</u> with his will." 1 John 5:14

Prayer Buster No. 5: Inadequate ______.

"If you need wisdom-- if you want to know what God wants you to do-- ask him, and he will gladly tell you. He will not resent your asking. But when you ask him, be sure that you really expect him to answer, for a doubtful mind is as unsettled as a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind. People like that should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. They can't make up their minds. They waver back and forth in everything they do." James 1:5-8

Prayer Buster No. 6: ______.

"If I had not confessed the sin in my heart, my Lord would not have listened." Psalm 66:18

"Listen! The LORD is not too weak to save you, and he is not becoming deaf. He can hear you when you call. But there is a problem-- <u>your sins have cut you off from God</u>. Because of your sin, he has turned away and will not listen anymore." Isaiah 59:1-2

Prayer Buster No. 7: Praying ____

"When Bartimaeus heard that Jesus from Nazareth was nearby, he began to shout out, 'Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!' "Be quiet!" some of the people yelled at him. But he only shouted louder, 'Son of David, have mercy on me!' When Jesus heard him, he stopped and said, 'Tell him to come here.' So they called the blind man. 'Cheer up," they said. "Come on, he's calling you!' Bartimaeus threw aside his coat, jumped up, and came to Jesus. '<u>What do you want me to do for you</u>? Jesus asked. "Teacher," the blind man said, 'I want to see!'' Mark 10:47-51

Prayer Buster No. 8: _____

"So if you are standing before the altar in the Temple, offering a sacrifice to God, and you suddenly remember that someone has something against you, leave your sacrifice there beside the altar. Go and <u>be reconciled to that person</u>. Then come and offer your sacrifice to God." Matt. 5:23-24

Prayer Buster No. 9: _____

"And even when you do ask, you don't get it because <u>your whole motive is wrong</u>-- you want only what will give you pleasure." James 4:3

Prayer Buster No. 10: ______.

"Don't be selfish; don't live to make a good impression on others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourself. Don't think only about your own affairs, but <u>be interested in others, too, and what they are doing</u>." Phil. 2:3-4

II. APPLICATION

Review these ten prayer busters and ask yourself, "Am I struggling with any of them?" If so, what steps can you take to make your prayer life stronger?

Portions of this lesson were adapted from Bill Hybels, "Too Busy Not to Pray"