

From the author of *Habits of Highly Effective Christians* and
Choose Your Character: 25 Bible Personalities Who Inspire Integrity

RISE

TO SEEK HIM

The Joy of Effective Prayer

R O N M E Y E R S



TO SEEK HIM

The Joy of Effective Prayer

RON MEYERS



A Publisher Driven by Vision and Purpose

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Introduction

On June 14, 2002, my wife, Char, and I departed from Tulsa embarking on a six-month sabbatical/mission trip. It included four cities in South Africa and 74 cities or villages in nine different states in India. We conducted 50 seminars plus numerous other one-time speaking engagements during that period. Half of them dealt with marriage and family studies and the other half with pastoral and Christian leadership training. Even though I had been in professional Christian ministry 37 years at the time, those six months led to new patterns of ministry that are so much more fruitful than previous years that I do not want to go back to the old patterns.

I am compelled to share the experiment with you. I want to tell you how it has brought me into a new dimension of ministry. I am the same person I was before — I still wrestle with all the vices and challenges every Christian faces. Yet, because I am doing one thing differently, I am more fruitful; have more insight; and feel stronger in my spirit. I am amazed that I have more doors of ministry over which I personally have no control open to me, and my sense of partnership with God is keener than I ever imagined possible. Here is what has made the difference — I am praying more!

Much of what educators learn, we gain from books. Nevertheless, most of what I have learned during that sabbatical/mission trip and since, I learned from experience — not books. In *Habits of Highly Effective Christians*, I argued for the legitimacy of learning from experience. *Rise to Seek Him* assumes that legitimacy and carries the discussion forward with a pointed life illustration of how to learn by purposeful experimentation and intentional observation.

Briefly, here are some of the things I learned.

- **Learn from experiments.** Experiments, even in spiritual matters, are a legitimate way to learn. We will never know what God might do through us if we were to pray more unless we experiment. In experimenting with increased amounts of prayer, we are not testing God. Rather, we are attempting to learn about prayer.
- **Pray more.** We never deserve the answers to our prayers, and God is better at answering than we are at

praying. Nevertheless, there is something of a *quid pro quo* element in prayer — God works when we pray. Likewise, there are things He does not do when we do not pray.

- **Change.** Change *is* possible later in life. We are not limited to past ministry patterns if we are willing to try something new. We may unknowingly plateau in our growth and development. If a major spiritual growth spurt, discovery, or new dimension in ministry has not occurred for a while in your life, do something different.
- **Ask.** He is “able to do immeasurably more than we can ask or imagine.” If our lives or careers do not have more happening in them than only what we have asked for or imagined, we are not experiencing all God has for us. If He is not doing “immeasurably more” than we can ask or imagine, we are living beneath our privileges.
- **Pursue God.** The intercessor should be as disciplined, punctual, and diligent in the pursuit of God as any other professional who rises early in pursuit of his vocation.
- **Unlock the Word through prayer.** Nothing is as important to effective Christians — whether full-time ministers or non-professional Christian workers — as prayer and Bible reading or study. People who listen to preachers want to hear from God. Moreover, Christians called to other vocations need the presence and blessing of God on their work and ministries just as much as professional preachers do on theirs.

Too many times, we stop growing too soon. When we reach a mature age and make fewer mistakes, we should remember that our best years are yet ahead of us. Whether it is beginning to run marathons as I did at age 55, discovering ways to make prayer more effective and efficient at age 58, or committing to pray more, new discoveries can lead to new fruitfulness in life.

I have had major life-changing experiences concerning my walk with God at ages 6, 19, 35, and more recently when I was 58. Jesus said the Gardener wants fruitful branches to bear more fruit — he is willing to prune us so we can. God can help even older people learn new things. Personal development has little to do with age and much to do with eagerness or willingness to learn. After 37 years of public ministry, I was about to discover that all over again. You, too, could easily experience a remarkable change.

I am a full-time minister and write from my experience of prayer in my professional career. Yet the principles I learned and present in this book are equally applicable to any Christian who wants God to be more involved in his or her career or business. Full-time Christian ministers are not the only ones God uses greatly and neither are they the only ones who are eager to seek God with their whole hearts. It will not require much of a struggle for you to apply the same ideas to your situation. Prayer helps each one of us have greater success. Increased and better prayer will add much to what God accomplishes through your life.

CHAPTER ONE

God's Surprise Agenda

*“Do not merely listen to the word,
and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.”*

James 1:22

I was a professor of Missions. After six years of teaching in the United States, I applied for and received a sabbatical leave — a break from classroom responsibilities in order to stay abreast of developments in my field.

Several students of mine in the School of Theology and Missions, a graduate school at Oral Roberts University (ORU), had returned to India after graduation. They had given me long-standing invitations to join them in ministry. I made plans to visit three of these students on my sabbatical.

To prepare, I designed questions that would allow me to determine how much of their American educations were applicable in India and what aspects had been the most helpful. My three student-friends are involved in indigenous Indian organizations in which future pastors are being trained for Christian ministry. The invitations to participate in their ministries provided ideal opportunities to research my areas of interest.

The Original Research Intent

One of the more important subjects taught in the Master of Arts in Missions curriculum is Contextualized Theology. In this course, international students are often eager to know what liberty they have to develop a theology that relates to important issues in their cultures better than American theology does. American students, on the other hand, are often surprised to learn that they need to tailor their theologies to address different issues in non-Western cultures.

During my sabbatical, I intended to research the usefulness of the principles I had taught in my Contextualized Theology class. I teach that we should strive for Christian truth that is applicable in the local contexts, so our theologies are both true to the Bible and relevant to the local culture. I wanted to know if I had succeeded.

As in any discipline, there are “arm-chair theorists” and practical field researchers. I wanted to be one of the latter. To grasp the important issues facing today’s missionaries, this meant I should be involved in field work again — the ministry of training pastors in another cultural context.

I heartily accepted my Indian students’ invitations. Through extensive e-mail exchanges from January to May of 2002, we planned schedules, curricula, lectures, pastors’ conferences, and guest teaching commitments.

Happily, my wife Char, at the time a candidate for the Doctor of Education degree at Oral Roberts University, was eager to join me on the trip. She accepted invitations to use her newly acquired educational expertise in the area of Educational Leadership. She was also invited to teach Christian education subjects — her long-standing favorites.

We also responded to another long-standing invitation from Mount Carmel Ministry (MCM) of Johannesburg. They had asked me to return to South Africa for ministry among Bible College students and pastoral staff members. With Char as my traveling companion and ministry partner, it was easy to agree to add a two-month ministry visit in South Africa to the four-month sabbatical/mission trip planned for India.

Teaching on Prayer

On June 24, after being in South Africa for eight days, I began a five-week course on Pastoral Leadership. I presented a lecture on the subject of “The Pastor’s Prayer Life.” In my teaching that day, I challenged the participants to actually increase their own prayer times. Before they could effectively encourage their future congregations to pray, they needed to know how to pray themselves. As they learned to pray, they in turn could say to others, “This is how I pray. Follow my example.”

This is much preferred to saying, “We should pray more.” Teaching by example is more effective than saying we all ought to do something different than we are willing to do ourselves. Platitudes or “must-dos” are weak teaching instruments – they only produce guilt.

With this in mind and as an illustration of teaching by example, I told my students that I spent the first two hours of every day alone with God in prayer. I explained that this was enough time for me personally, and recommended they consider increasing their amount of prayer time according to how they felt God was leading them.

I shared that I use the Lord’s Prayer as an outline. This use of the Lord’s Prayer begins with praise, advances to inviting His Kingdom and will to earth, deals with daily provisions, forgiveness, and confrontation with evil spiritual forces and concludes with praise. Everything I need to pray about can be inserted in this comprehensive outline.

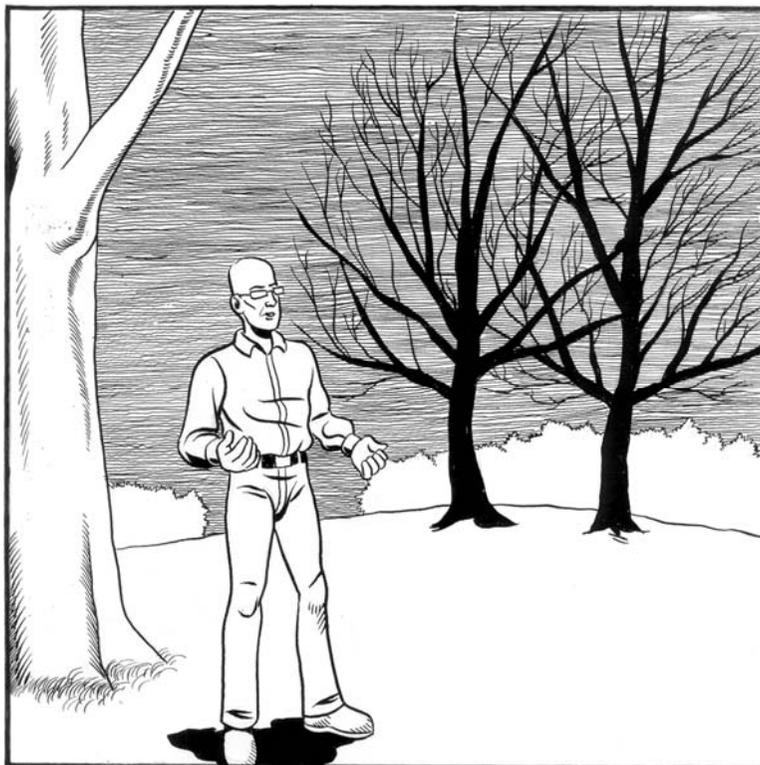
The Beginning of an Experiment in Prayer

About that same time, during my first week working with Mount Carmel Ministry, I had noticed a book called *God’s Generals* by Roberts Liardon in the library of a pastoral staff member. I asked if I could borrow it and began reading this inspiring book. Chapter after chapter, I was impressed by how much time fruitful men and women of God with gifts of miracles and healing spent in prayer. It provided me with a greater challenge than many of the things I had read over the years *about* prayer.

By the second week of teaching Pastoral Leadership – just eight days after telling my class that I thought I was praying enough – I decided to conduct an experiment:

What would happen if a person with a teaching gift began to pray with the same intensity and commitment to intercession demonstrated by the men and women in *God's Generals*?

On July 9, 2002, I made the announcement to Char and the host pastor and his wife with whom we were staying – I would begin spending more time out on the hillside near their home where I was comfortable praying alone. I urged them not to worry about me. I was just conducting an experiment in prayer and would be out four hours each day instead of just two.



That very evening, I was told I had been invited to speak at a Sunday morning service at Grace Bible Church, the largest and most dynamic church in Soweto. Soweto, originally an acronym for Southwest Township, is well-known as the hotbed of racial unrest during the *apartheid* period. The Holy Spirit whispered to me that He was already at work and that this invitation was in response to my experiment in increased prayer. I had already heard of Pastor Mosa Sono and the very powerful work being done at Grace. In fact, when I was speaking previously at

another smaller church in Soweto, I experienced a twinge of disappointment over not being scheduled at Grace Bible Church. O wretched ambition!

By the time I spoke at Grace, I had already preached the message of “The Power and Danger of Prayer” three times in South Africa. The sermon was well received, and I was becoming familiar with the right way to express each thought. However, I was in no way prepared for what happened at Grace.

Char ministered in music with an uplifting segment of worship music. Once she finished, I was introduced and I walked to the pulpit. Almost without looking at my sermon notes and certainly with no bondage to them, I began to teach the lessons in my message. Like most preachers, there have been times when I spoke with greater liberty. However, this time was intensely different. Never in my 37 years of public speaking and preaching had I delivered God’s Word with such authority, precision, conciseness, and power.

Char, seated on the front row, immediately recognized the new freedom with which I spoke. She later told me she laughed in her spirit all the way through the sermon. It is true that the 2,000 plus attendees were responsive, but I knew that much more than human response had added energy to the message that day.

I might have been inclined to believe that the experience at Grace Bible Church was an isolated case. Perhaps it was the result of the mature zeal that this congregation has for God and His Word. I do not claim to always speak with the same power evident that morning; but I can say that the increased authority and anointing has continued since doubling the time I spend in daily prayer.

Does God anoint according to the amount of time spent in prayer? Are quid pro quo exchanges with God possible? Does God work as a **payment of** or in **exchange for** our prayer; or does His sovereignty have more control than my puny efforts?

I can’t answer all those questions yet, but I do know that the experiment — doubling my prayer time in order to see what would happen if someone with the teaching gift were to be more serious about prayer — began right away to produce something new in me.

The Legitimacy of Experimentation in Spiritual Matters

God invites us to reason with him.

“Come now, let us reason together,” says the Lord”
(Isaiah 1:18).

Job 33:14 says, “For God does speak — now one way, now another — though man may not perceive it.”

Proverbs 25:2 says, “It is the glory of God to conceal a matter; to search out a matter is the glory of kings.”

It seems like God invites experimentation and discovery by concealing some of his treasured ideas. Experiments, motivated by an honest inquiring mind, are one way God communicates with us.

A prayer experiment is a solid way to discover how to increase your effectiveness in the special gifts that God gave you. Anyone can experiment with prayer. Spending hours in prayer each day has long been largely limited to the Christian ministries of deliverance, miracles, healing, and evangelism. Nevertheless, to have an effective teaching ministry, a teacher also needs the strong touch of the Spirit of God. No longer do I wistfully observe that miracle workers and healing evangelists seem to have a more dramatic or interesting ministry. My own experiment with increased prayer gives evidence that a teacher too can exercise powerful influence with his gifts. I suspect this is also true for you regardless of what gifts God has given you.

Sometimes words seem trite or meaningless. At other times or with other speakers, words are authoritative and convincing. What is the difference? Because of my experiment, it seems evident that words have added weight, value, and persuasive power over listeners when the Holy Spirit bears witness to them in answer to serious prayer. I had prayed my two hours a day, fasted regularly, and spent hours with God over the previous 37 years of ministry. However, I had never experienced the consistent and continuing touch of the Spirit of God on my teaching, lectures, preaching, and study of God’s Word as I have since July 9, 2002.

God does not reject a person who wants to increase in fruitfulness. Don’t you want to be even more fruitful regardless of the degree of fruitfulness you are experiencing currently when using your gifts?

You, too, can conduct your own experiment with increased time spent in prayer to see what greater things God might do through you in the exercise of your gifts. Conduct the test and see if more time in prayer produces more fruit or not. Prayer releases, enhances, facilitates, and expands the use of anyone's gifts. Prayer does not make us become someone we are not, but rather brings out new fullness in the use of natural and spiritual gifts — existing or dormant. Prayer may not change your unique combination of gifts, but it will more fully release the gifts you have.

When we see the conditions under which God blesses and compare them with the circumstances under which His blessings are not so evident, should we not attempt to learn to duplicate the state of affairs under which He blesses? We certainly must!

Should I Share My Experiences?

I do not know if other ministers who spend hours in prayer talk about it or not — there are specific scriptural instructions not to brag about how much we pray. I'm inclined not say anything about my personal prayer life. However, I have a strong need to share this discovery with other pastors, missionaries, and Christians. I want them to know increasing prayer time will allow them to experience greater authority in teaching, preaching, and counseling. It will allow them to receive greater wisdom in pursuit of any God-given career.

For my experiment to benefit others, I *must* share it. To me, as a trainer of Christian leaders, sharing is the way I can challenge others in my efforts to lead by example just as Paul did by sharing his experiences and then inviting others to follow him.

When we see the conditions under which God blesses and compare them with the circumstances under which His blessings are not so evident, should we not attempt to learn to duplicate the state of affairs under which He blesses? We certainly must!

The Biblical Basis of Teaching by Example

Jesus taught by example. “I have set for you an example that you should do as I have done” (John 13:15). He also taught us to, “... let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven (Matthew 5:16). The Bible teaches us to watch for good examples and imitate them. “Remember your leaders ... consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith” (Hebrews 13:7). The New Testament tells us that we are to learn from the examples in the Old Testament. “These things happened to them as examples ...” (1 Corinthians 10:11).

Paul repeatedly encouraged his readers to imitate his example. His motive in asking his disciples to follow his example was not pride. Instead, he was using an effective and trusted teaching method – teaching by example. “Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ (1 Corinthians 11:1). “Therefore I urge you to imitate me” (1 Corinthians 4:16). “Join with others in following my example, brothers, and take note of those who live according to the pattern we gave you” (Philippians 3:17). “... our gospel came to you not simply with words ... you became imitators of us and of the Lord ... you became a model to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia. (1 Thessalonians 1:5-7). He said he did some things deliberately “... in order to offer ourselves as a model for you to imitate (2 Thessalonians 3:9). Paul also taught others, in turn, to teach by example. “Set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, and in purity (1 Timothy 4:12). “In everything, set them an example by doing what is good (Titus 2:7).

It is no coincidence that the apostle who invited his readers to follow his example numerous times is also the only New Testament writer to write extensively about his own life experiences, hardships, prayers, faithfulness, and attitudes in actual ministry. This was planned. He writes about his own life and encourages us to follow his example. It’s an effective way to invite others to do it too. The problem with teaching by example, however, is that you have to be good at whatever you are teaching to teach by example. This automatically reduces the number of effective teachers, but then again, who would want to learn to do something from someone who was not very good at doing it?

Only Jesus is an example to follow on all points. The rest of us have only limited promising strengths that we can draw on as

we challenge others to follow our example. Also, we all have weaknesses. Learn to share those pitfalls with others while at the same time prayerfully working to overcome them. The best we humans can do is selective modeling by inviting duplication of only the good things in our lives. There are things about me I hope you will not copy, but for the sake of challenging you, I am willing, as Paul did, to invite you to imitate me on this point. If an ordinary person like me can more than double his effectiveness and influence for Jesus by doubling his prayer time, you can too.

If an ordinary person like me can more than double his effectiveness and influence for Jesus by doubling his prayer time, you can too.

In this book, I submit to you, “This is what I do. Follow my example.” If we want to increase our effectiveness in service to our Lord, then our purpose is to pray more, strive to be more humble, and be a more obedient tool for the answer if God chooses to use us. I invite you to join me in praying more. God will show you how much.

Hunger for God

Since I am now spending more time seeking God, it amazes me to find so many Scriptures that encourage me to continue the pursuit. It is as though God was waiting all the time for me to begin to pursue Him more earnestly — more tenaciously. The challenge was there all along.

Spending four hours daily at anything requires a great deal of organization and prioritization. A day still has only 24 hours — this forces me to schedule my priorities carefully. I decided to eliminate some activities (such as the longer training runs and marathons) so that I can do more of what is really important. The following verses help me to know that I am on a good path. They encourage me to continue in prayer, and they mirror my own passion for God. These verses are now a part of the décor on the walls of our garage where I regularly go to pray alone.

- “... seek first His kingdom and His righteousness ...”
Matthew 6:33.
- “Come near to God and He will come near to you.”
James 4:8.

- “Love the Lord your God with all your heart ... soul ... strength ... mind.” Luke 10:27.
- “He rewards those who earnestly seek Him.” Hebrews 11:6.
- “Do not be afraid ... I am your shield, your very great reward.” Genesis 15:1.

God’s Surprise Agenda

I thought the centerpiece of my learning experience on the sabbatical/mission trip would be the Contextualized Theology curriculum and its usefulness in non-Western nations. Indeed, I did see how effective they had been. However, God had a higher agenda — He wanted me to learn of the increased fruitfulness possible with increased time spent with Him. This lesson will certainly apply in any cross-cultural ministry or any career situation. One lesson God wanted this professor to relearn on his sabbatical was the power of prayer — and the increase of power that is possible through even more prayer.

If prayer was really the most important thing I did, I needed to do it more than anything else I did.

I am told that in industry, manufacturers should discover what product they produce most profitably and focus on finding better ways to produce more of that product. In successful businesses, smart businessmen identify what works best for them and concentrate on that. I have long said and felt that prayer was the most important thing I do in any given day. So, when I realized my amount of time spent in prayer did not match my belief, I knew I needed to change either my belief or behavior. If prayer was really the most important thing I did, I needed to do it more than anything else I did.

Being 58 and at that stage of my career, I thought I knew what ministry fruitfulness was, but I discovered it was possible for an older person to still make a new breakthrough. I learned that I could pray more, become more fruitful, teach with more authority, and that there were increased quantities and qualities of service opportunities available.

What increased fruitfulness awaits you and your career?

Acknowledgements

I thank God for the opportunity to experiment in my attempts to know Him and His ways better. My friendship with Him has increased enormously throughout the prayer experiment documented in this book. He has helped me crystallize my opinions throughout the additional adventure of writing about it. Anything good in this book is due to Him. The flaws in it are due to my own inadequacies.

My wife, Char, and our two sons, Dan and Joel, have greatly encouraged me. I thank God for their friendship. Char also helped edit some of the chapters. Most of the ideas developed in this book have been discussed with her over the years of the prayer experiment. She has been a good sounding board, but more than that, she has been a partner with me in learning about prayer. By helping me understand what I was feeling, Char enabled me to better verbalize these ideas.

My friend Millard Parrish, missionary to Kenya and writer, has been a great help to me in the writing process. His understanding of the editing process and his firm grasp of Christian theology and thought make his contribution to this book of great significance. He is a great blessing to the body of Christ.

Matthew McDaniel, a part-time art student who served in the prayer tower at Oral Roberts University, created the drawings used throughout the book. The front cover designer, TJ Pike, captured the idea of rising above the world's problems to spend time with God in prayer. I am grateful to these two gifted men and the godly way in which they used their artistic talents to help the reader visualize some of the concepts developed in the book.

Barbara Wolfer, a friend and English professor, helped in the early stages of the editorial process. Jana Wegner and Michelle Crissup spent many hours editing manuscripts at a later phase. I am grateful for the help of these fine women.

This is my second book to publish with Carrie Perrien Smith and Soar with Eagles. They have been a great publisher to work with both times. Carrie is very patient and persistent in her pursuit of excellence. Her combination of warmth and professionalism makes writing and publishing a book a pleasant process.

Ron Meyers
Pretoria, South Africa

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Ron Meyers, PhD



Ron Meyers was born in 1944 and raised in a pioneer pastor's home. In July 1965, he began pastoral ministry as a student pastor in a rural community seventy miles from the Bible College he attended in mid-Ohio.

From 1996 until 2006, he served as the Professor of Missions and Coordinator of the Master of Arts in Missions program in the School of Theology and Missions of Oral Roberts University. During those years, Ron traveled to African, Asian, European, and Middle Eastern nations during his summer breaks from university responsibilities.

He, with his wife, Char, have served more years outside the United States as pastors in Canada and missionaries in Korea, China, and Africa than their years in the U.S. Since January 2007, Ron and Char have lived in Africa and traveled full-time to African nations Conducting Empower Africa Christian Leadership Conferences. Ron has a PhD in Intercultural Studies and Char has an EdD. The Meyers have two adult sons, one daughter-in-law, and eight grandchildren.

ONLINE TOOLS FOR LEADERS

Leadership Empowerment Resources Website



This website provides additional resources for Dr. Meyer's mission work abroad. It includes information on:

Books: Resources written by Ron Meyers for expanding your wisdom and knowledge to use in any way that serves your purpose in helping to enrich the lives of Christians you know

Leadership Empowerment Conferences: Ron and Char Meyers' Africa-based vehicle for strengthening His Church by training the leaders of churches

Treasure Hunt: A Christian conversational game intended to be a catalyst for drawing out practical wisdom and understanding – treasures – from the hearts of Christians who enjoy wholesome conversational fun

Visit the Website



To read the code, download the QR Reader app for your cell phone and scan it.

OTHER BOOKS BY RON MEYERS

Habits of Highly Effective Christians Book and Study Guide

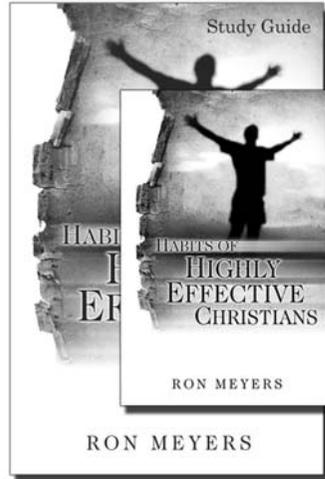
Habits of Highly Effective Christians Makes a Great Bible Study Program

When Ron Meyers followed his passion for international missions work forty years ago, he never imagined the rich educational curriculum God had in store for him. A lifetime of spiritual challenges groomed him for his role at the School of Theology and Missions at Oral Roberts University in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Then, after ten years educating Christian ministry candidates at ORU and serving as Coordinator of the Master of Arts in Missions program, he and his wife moved to Africa where they now train pastors and missionaries throughout the southern African nations.

Meyers wrote his book with life application in mind. He weaves his stories into each habit by providing real-life, insightful, and applicable examples. *Habits of Highly Effective Christians* guides you through biblical resources for creating a rich tapestry with the fibers of your own life.

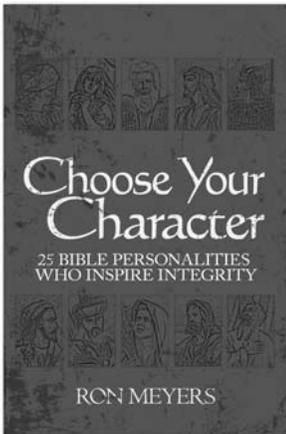
A Great Tool for Growth and Discussion

Proven to create rich discussions, *Habits of Highly Effective Christians* is perfect for small-group Bible studies or college classroom discussions. Meyers has also written the *Habits of Highly Effective Christians Study Guide*. Together, this study combo will etch biblical principles on every aspect of the lives you encounter.



OTHER BOOKS BY RON MEYERS

Choose Your Character: 25 Bible Personalities Who Inspire Integrity



Powerful Lessons in Integrity

The writers of the Bible speak to us with their words, and the Bible's characters speak to us with their lives. Their powerful examples reveal the spiritual inspiration and brilliant insight the human writers and the divine Writer intended. Times, cultures, traditions, and societal values may change from century to century, but human nature does not.

We value people whose words and actions reflect their true thoughts and intentions. People of integrity purposely integrate their own thoughts, words, and behaviors. They work at making their own hearts and minds, thoughts and ideas consistent with the godly character portrayed in Scripture.

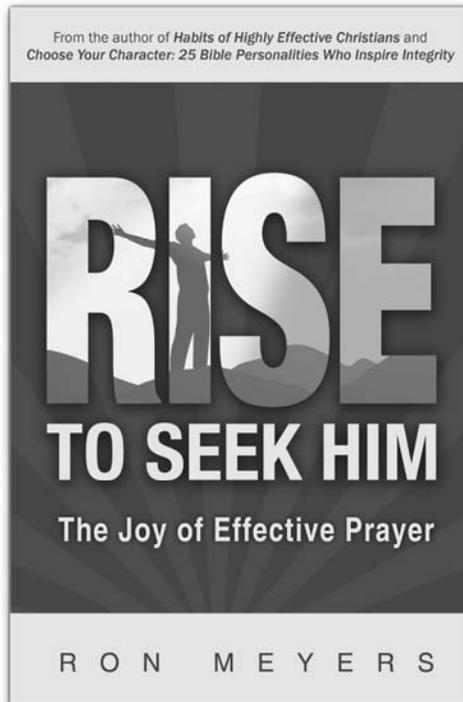
These twenty-five Bible personalities in Choose Your Character cultivate a desire to deepen the commitment to live a life of unflinching integrity. Their examples teach us how to increase our personal satisfaction and effectiveness while strengthening our ability to influence others.



Books and e-books by Ron Meyers are available at online bookstores.

Quantity discounts are available by contacting Soar with Eagles (www.soarhigher.com).

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as a gift for
family members and friends.**



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Allow God to Do Immeasurably More in Your Life

Effective prayer is more about becoming useful tools in God's hands than imposing our plans and desires on Him. In *Rise to Seek Him*, we learn that we accomplish much more when God uses us through prayer than when we try to use God to accomplish our objectives.

This is not just another book on prayer. Ron Meyers invites you to experiment for yourself how God can accomplish "immeasurably more" than you could ever ask or imagine. This book reveals fresh insights about the meaning of prayer — insights that were in the Bible all the time.

Rise to Seek Him offers practical solutions to the questions we all ask:

- How do we discipline ourselves to pray?
- How can we know what to pray for?
- Why is it difficult to pray?
- What is the focus of prayer?
- Does prayer really "work?"

This book testifies to the expansion in influence, effectiveness, and success possible with increased personal prayer. As in *Habits of Highly Effective Christians*, Meyers again describes self-discipline as a fruit of the Spirit to increase personal spiritual growth and improvement in public ministry. God-fearing Christians of any vocation who are serious about serving God at maximum levels of effectiveness will benefit from this book.

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Ron Meyers, PhD was raised in a pioneer pastor's home. When he followed his passion for international missions work forty years ago, he never imagined the rich educational curriculum God had for him. He, with his wife, Char, served more years outside the U.S. as pastors in Canada and missionaries in Korea and China than their years in the U.S. From 1996 through 2006, he served as the Professor of Missions and Coordinator of the Master of Arts in Missions program in the School of Theology and Missions at Oral Roberts University. He and Char now live in southern Africa and train pastors in the more than forty sub-Saharan nations of southern Africa.

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