

A photograph of four people standing in a field of tall grass, holding hands in a circle. The scene is backlit by a bright sun, creating a warm, golden glow and long shadows. The people are seen from behind, their forms slightly blurred by the soft light.

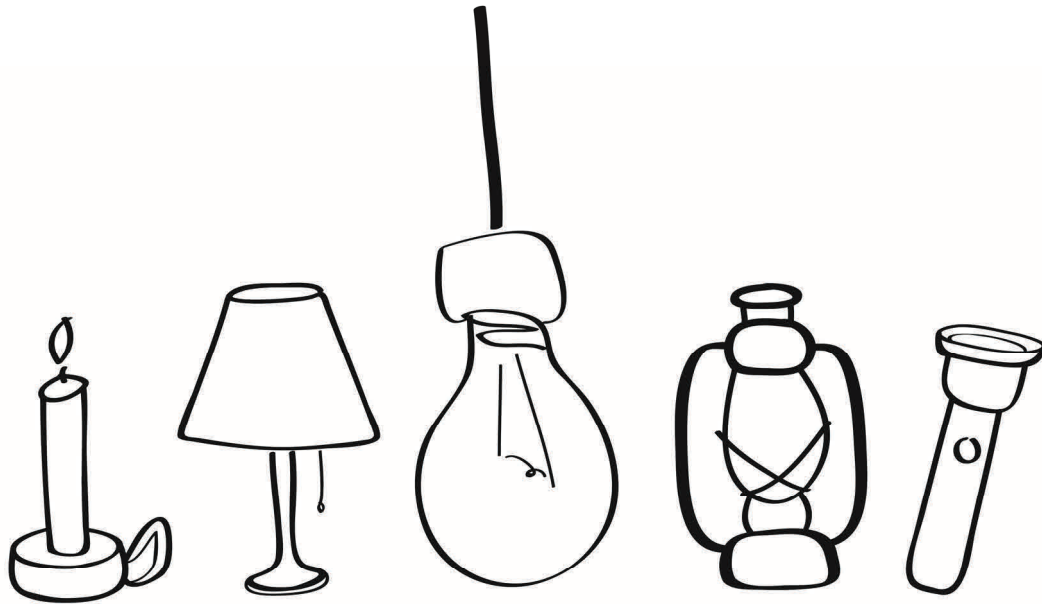
THE  
CONNECTION

FALL 2016

*When You  
Pray*

# FLY 2017

July 3–8, 2017, Estes Park, CO



i l l u m i n a t e

FLY 2017 » JOHN 8:12

## REGISTER AT

# FLYCONVENTION.ORG

REGISTRATION WILL OPEN JANUARY 2016

### COST & DEADLINES

Register By	1.27.17	3.24.17	5.26.17	walk up
Students	\$399	\$499	\$549	\$649
Adults	\$599	\$649	\$699	\$799
Children*	\$149	\$199	\$249	\$249
Staff	\$329	\$359	\$429	N/A

\*Children ages 4-11. Children 3 years of age and under are free.

All deposits and registrations are non-refundable and non-transferable.

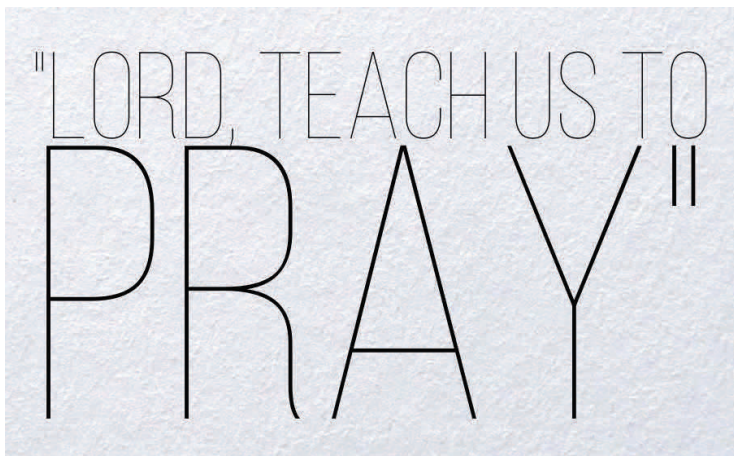
# When You Pray

By Jason Holt

Jesus was approached by His disciples in Luke 11. The Savior King had just been praying, so the disciples thought it was a good time to talk about it. Hearing John the Baptist had taught his followers about this incredible conversation with our Heavenly Father, they thought it wise to ask.

Very likely they expected a teaching about prayer. What they first received was itself a prayer.

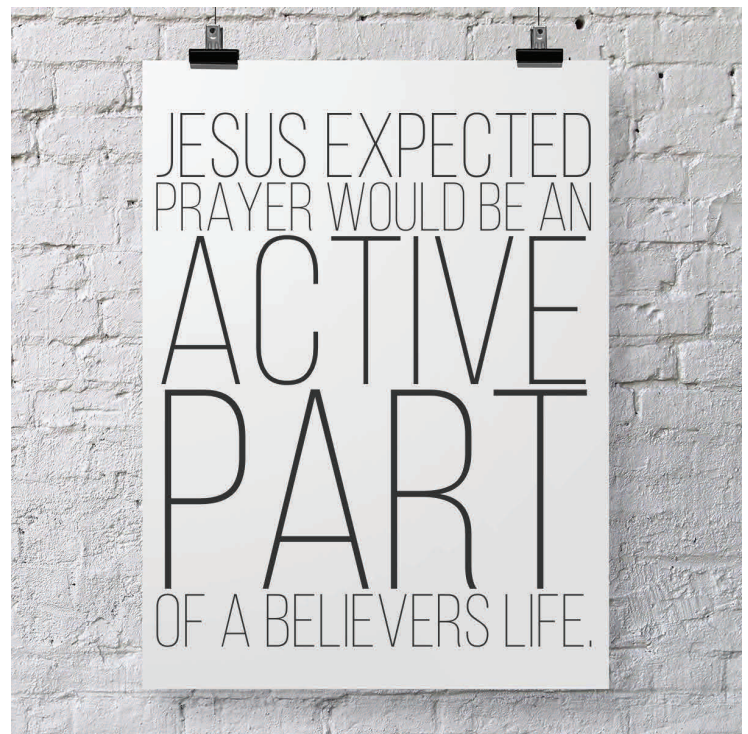
Jesus started in verse two with “When you pray, say”. The words that followed in verses 2-4 are the content of the Lord’s Prayer. Studying the Lord’s Prayer is valuable. Such a study is worthy of our time, but today we are focusing on some details around prayer.



## GETTING STARTED

One of the things that we should note is that Jesus expected prayer would be an active part of a believer’s life. The three little words “When you pray” indicate that it would be a normal activity. Jesus doesn’t make a case that you should pray. Instead, the Lord expresses that ongoing conversation with your Heavenly Father will be a natural outcome of this supernatural relationship.

The Redeemer of the world went on to stress in this chapter that the Father is good and so His answers are good (v. 5-13). Therefore, we are motivated to come to the great God Almighty, who can be trusted.



## OUT LOUD? REALLY?!?

I was a teen at a Bible Camp one year after coming to assurance of salvation. I had offered to assist the program leaders for some weeks and the Lord was teaching me many things from His Word. I had grown in times of prayer, but do not recall being asked in a public setting to pray. At the end of one chapel, immediately after a humorous skit and its explanation, the leader called, “Jason, would you close our time in prayer?” Friends nearby later described that I went from a laughing smile to pursed lips in 0.91 seconds! I stood up, fumbled through some words, and ended.

“What was that?” I asked myself.

I realized that I was thinking more about what others around me heard than what the One to whom I was praying heard. I was planning out what I said, instead of talking with my Abba Father. As you grow in prayer, there will be moments that you get distracted or discouraged. Remember God’s heart to hear from His children....to hear from you!



## GETTING TOGETHER

One challenge that a number of teens have expressed to me is that they are comfortable praying alone, but it gets awkward praying with others in their congregation or at their school. Acts 2:42 reminds us that the early church prioritized praying together: **“And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.”** In fact, this structure suggests a regular and consistent coming together seeking the Lord in prayer.

Who in your congregation could you pray with on a weekly basis at Sunday School or youth group? Who in your school could you connect with to pray at lunch for one another?

## ALWAYS? REALLY?!?

The other question that I sometimes hear raised around the environment of prayer comes from First Thessalonians 5:17 – **“pray without ceasing”**.

How is that possible? How can I always be in prayer? I know that I prayed all the way through that last Chemistry test, but am I truly to be praying every moment that I am awake?

When you move from seeing prayer as only the formal, sit-down, meal-time settings and move to understanding this ongoing conversation with your Heavenly Father, then the “without ceasing” develops. Whether walking the hallway or during an extra-curricular activity, you can talk to the Lord. Let’s join together in praying for one another, our congregations, and our communities.

In Jesus’ Name, AMEN.

Pastor Jason Holt



*Pastor Jason Holt is the Director of Youth Ministries for the AFLC*



# FLY CONVENTION SPOTLIGHT

By Pastor Eric Rasmussen

As our youth prepared to attend FLY last time around, I asked those who had attended a previous FLY for a bit of help. I was hoping for a little free advertising about FLY from some youth in our group. So I asked one guy in our group, “Why should someone go to FLY?” I didn’t really expect his passionate (and loud) answer, “BECAUSE FLY IS THE MOST AWESOME THING EVER!!!!”

But I agree, FLY is AWESOME, and we think FLY 2017 will be more awesome than EVER!! Our speakers are going to be great! We are going to have a drummer, a president, and one who just finished The World Race. Another one almost sawed his leg off with a chainsaw, and one keeps a lot of important people going with his freshly roasted coffee beans. The last one is one of the most influential ministry trainers I’ve ever heard. But all of them love Jesus and can’t wait to tell you more about Him. I’m looking forward to this already!

We are having two great music groups come as well. The Brilliance has a unique mellow sound. I got the opportunity to talk to their leader David Gungor on the phone recently— he loves Jesus and loves music and loves to use music to unite people around Jesus. The other group is called Beautiful Eulogy. Their sound is also unique; I’m not an expert, but I would say that if you mix spoken word (like poetry), rhythm, melody and rap, that would be a good description. I’ve already been told by several people that they especially

want to come to FLY to hear Beautiful Eulogy. You can find both groups on YouTube—check them out and tell your friends.



BEAUTIFUL  
EULOGY



THE  
BRILLIANCE

We can’t wait to have you join us! Jesus will be there. And more than 2,000 of your closest friends. July 3-8, 2017. Estes Park, Colorado. The beautiful YMCA camp. The Rocky Mountains. Great Speakers and Music. And you? Can you imagine? You and Jesus in the same place at the same time? All of the rest just makes FLY THE MOST AWESOME THING EVER!

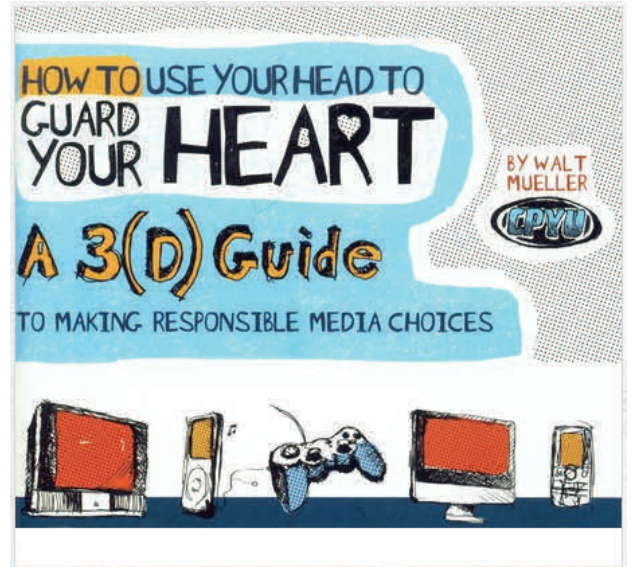
*Pastor Eric Rasmussen is  
the President of the  
2017 FLY Committee*



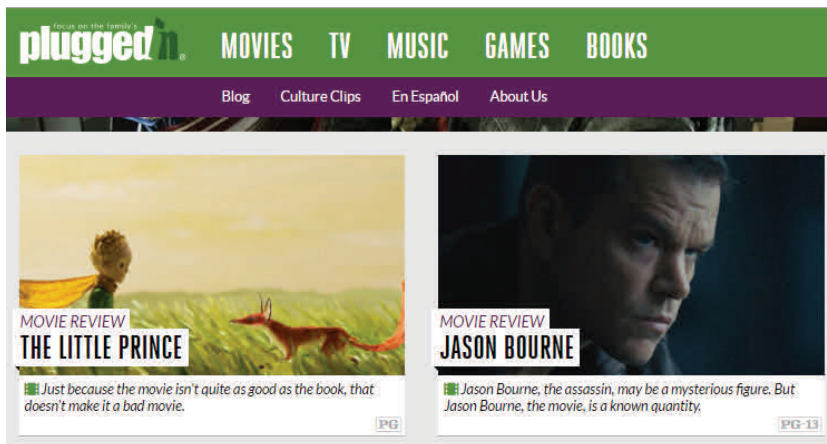
### DISCERNING MEDIA – 3(D) Guide

How do you discern your media choices? For a number of years, AFLC Youth Ministries has pointed teens, parents, youth leaders, and congregations to *How to Use Your Head to Guard Your Heart: A 3(D) Guide to Making Responsible Media Choices*.

The guide provides a framework for looking at movies, music, books, and so much more. It aids all of us in moving from being “mindless consumers” to offering a “mindful critique” of media. Scripture calls us to not “be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind” (Romans 12:2). Therefore, we can love the Lord Jesus with our mind by evaluating what we prioritize.



This resource is available in the CPYU Resource Center at [www.cpyuresourcecenter.org](http://www.cpyuresourcecenter.org).



### MEDIA REVIEW – *Plugged In*

Focus on the Family's *Plugged In* gives you a way to assess from a Christian perspective the movies, music, TV, games, and books of today's culture. This website gives you a summary of the content including positives and negatives to enhance your ability to make discerning selections. You can find out more at [www.pluggedin.com](http://www.pluggedin.com).



## Put These Dates in Your Phone

- September 28 = “See You At The Pole”, Your School’s Flagpole
- October 14-16 = AFLBS Fall Campus Days, Plymouth, MN
- January = FLY Convention Online Registration Opens
- February 3-5 = ARC Winter Retreats, Osceola, WI
- March 17-19 = AFLBS Spring Campus Days, Plymouth, MN
- July 3-8 = 2017 FLY Convention, Estes Park, CO