**The Importance of Prayer**

*Luke 18:1; 9-14*

**Main idea**: To emphasize the continuous nature and transformative power of prayer, and to provide practical solutions to common obstacles to prayer.

**Topic**: Prayer

Scripture Verses to Support the Importance of Prayer:

1. Matthew 6:5-8 - Jesus teaches about the sincerity and privacy of prayer.

2. Philippians 4:6-7 - Encouragement to present requests to God with thanksgiving.

3. James 5:13-16 - The power of prayer for healing and forgiveness.

Language Suggestions from Original Scriptures:

1. Luke 18:1 - The Greek word for "always" (pantote) emphasizes the continuous nature of prayer.

2. Luke 18:9-14 - The Greek word for "justified" (dikaioō) can be explored to highlight the transformative power of prayer.

Additional Scripture Passages:

1. 1 Thessalonians 5:17 - "Pray without ceasing" emphasizes the constant communication with God.

2. Mark 11:24 - Jesus encourages believers to have faith when praying, believing that they have received what they ask for.

Suggestions for Reinforcing Current Ideas:

1. Share examples from the lives of biblical characters who experienced the power of prayer, such as Daniel, Hannah, or Elijah.

2. Discuss the different types of prayer, including intercession, thanksgiving, confession, and supplication.

3. Address common obstacles to prayer, such as distractions, doubt, or lack of time, and provide practical solutions to overcome them.

Remember to tailor these suggestions to your specific sermon and audience.