

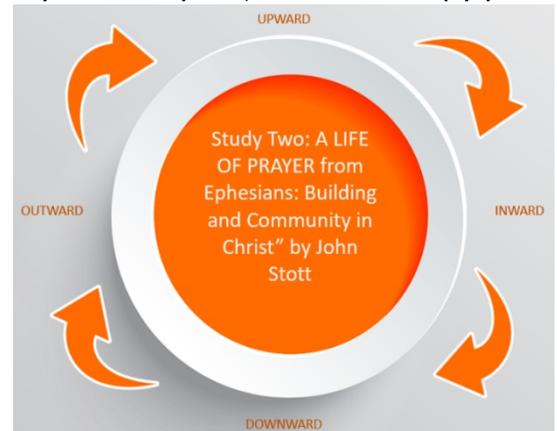


This is the second of four daily circles as the study of Ephesians and the book “*Ephesians: Building and Community in Christ*” by John Stott. On each of the days we will briefly complete:

- 1) Lesson Tasks: Study the scripture as it is illuminated in our targeted book
- 2) Circle Tasks: Reflect on one of four application principles: Upward, Inward, Downward and Outward
- 3) Inquiring Tasks: Do a little investigating that helps us keep thinking about the principles throughout our day

Lesson Tasks: Please read and complete questions #4-8 in the Chapter “Life of Prayer” *Ephesians: Building and Community in Christ* by John Stott. This is a meaty section of content, especially the concept of justification. Simply put, to justify is to declare righteous, to make one right with God. Read the scriptures below and write a few thoughts about justification:

2 Corinthians 5:21	
Romans 3:21–26	
Romans 5:18–19	



Circle Tasks: Every day we focus on one application: Upward, Inward, Downward and Outward. Today we reflect **Inward**—the ways in which what we have read applies to our relationship with the Lord:

- 1) Do you internally accept and dwell in the reality of Christ as your savior, or do you carry around pockets of guilt or harbor plans to earn your salvation?
- 2) While the Lord is omnipresent (that is, He already knows your thoughts), do you have prayers that you dare not utter or sin that you have trouble laying at the feet of the Lord?
- 3) In building our community, would sharing the ways in which the Lord has or is justifying you now be helpful or a burden to others?

Inquiring Tasks:

- 1) Sit back and listen to the [New King James Version of Hebrews 4](#), in which we learn to boldly approach the throne of grace.
- 2) Simple and Complex: Here is both a [simple description of justification](#) and a more [complex discussion of justification and sanctification](#), calmly discussed by three pastors of various denominations.

Tomorrow: Looking Inwardly

