

# Bi 103 Exegetical Project



**Assignment Number**

**#04**

**Assignment Distributed**

**March 17, 2016**

**Assignment Due**

**April 28, 2016**

## Introduction

Throughout the Gospels we see Jesus involved in prayer, and in teaching prayer. Luke especially exhibits this using 2 words for prayer 41 times in the book of Luke. The verb *proseukomai*, and its noun form *proseuke*, are used twenty-two times while the verb *deesis* is used nineteen times

Lindell O. Harris (Prayer in the Gospel of Luke) explains the difference in the two words that Luke uses to describe prayer: *deesis* gives prominence to the expression of personal need while *proseuke* pertains to the element of devotion. Harris goes on to explain that the use of *deesis* is not limited to God, but can also be used of a request addressed to a man. *Proseuke*, however, is limited to God.

Of the prayer instances recorded in Luke's gospel, there are eight texts that relate to prayer in the life of Jesus. The majority of the other prayer texts deal with the instruction of prayer for the disciples. Only a handful of references fall outside these two distinctions: the prayers of Zechariah and Elizabeth for a son (1:13), the prayers of Anna (2:36-38), and Simeon's prayer of thanksgiving (2:26-32).

### Exegetical Assignment

1. Utilizing the book of Luke as your primary source,
  - a. Review the presentation of prayer by Luke reviewing both the prayers of Jesus and the teaching of prayer by Jesus. Make sure you do not just concentrate on the content of the prayer – be sure to look at the context of the prayer . Be thinking about the questions “**When, Why Where and What did Jesus Pray**”.
  - b. Then, please create a theology of prayer based on both Jesus’ teaching and his practice of prayer.
  - c. Finally, please share what if anything this study means to you and your own personal prayer life. How is your prayer impacted knowing better the importance of prayer to Jesus, and his personal teaching of prayer.
2. Utilizing either your library, the church library, or ONLINE resources please incorporate at least 4 additional texts in your studying of the prayers, their contents and their contexts. These texts could be commentaries, Biblical surveys, Biblical Encyclopedias, Biblical Dictionaries, or any other text that is able to help you with your study.
3. This paper should encompass approximately:
  - a. 6-8 pages reviewing the prayers and teaching on prayer of Jesus.
  - b. 2-4 pages presenting your theology of prayer based on your study of Luke
  - c. 1-2 pages reviewing the impact of this study on your prayer life.
4. This paper needs to conform to MLA standards as presented and documented on the class web site.
5. As a research paper, this paper should include citations to any reference works you may have used and quoted from.