5. Pray with the Scriptures

Objective: Learn to pray with the scriptures.

1. 15 Minutes of Sharing: How is your quiet time last week?
2. 1 John 5:14 This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us.
3. Assignment: Memorize and mediate on Ephesians 4:32 (Have practiced: Context, Key words, Memorizing, Compare different translations, Paraphrasing, Ask questions)

（http://www.biblegateway.com）

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| NASB |  NIV 1984 | New King James Version  | New Living Translation | The Message |
| Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you. | Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. | And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you. | Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you. | Be gentle with one another, sensitive. Forgive one another as quickly and thoroughly as God in Christ forgave you.  |

1. Can you identify some key words? By comparing different translations, explain those key words.
2. Use one phrase to summarize the main teaching of this verse:
3. What does this scripture speak to you? How can/will you apply it to your life?
4. According to what you write down for the third question, now write down a prayer (If you’re convicted of a sin, confess it; if you know clearly what the Spirit wants you to do， but you are not willing to obey, pray for willingness; if you are willing to obey, but find it difficult to obey, think of the first step leading to complete obedience and pray for grace and strength to take that first step; review the scripture often and move from the first step to the second, to the third... until you win the battle by completely obeying what God told you to do. )

Example: Ephesians 4:32

1. You cannot think of anyone you need to forgive or you need to ask for forgiveness (Thank Jesus to make forgiveness of sins available; thank God for blessing your relationship; ask the Spirit to examine your heart to see if there is anyone you need to forgive or to ask for forgiveness)
2. You have hurt someone:
3. You have apologized but haven’t been forgiven (Thank God for His forgiveness; ask God’s grace to set you free; ask God to heal the hurt that you caused and to soften that person’s heart to accept your apology; pray for reconciliation)
4. You have not yet apologized (Ask God to give you courage 、chance、words to apologize)
5. You have been hurt, need to forgive someone
6. You are willing, and have a plan to do that （Pray for the action you are going to take; ask God to give you the best opportunity to take the action）
7. You are not willing (Confess to God that you are not willing to obey Him; ask God to give you a willing heart to forgive)
8. You are willing but “feel” it is difficult to forgive (Tell Him that you are willing; pray for grace and strength to do it; pray to know what’s the first step to obey; pray what it really means to forgive that person)