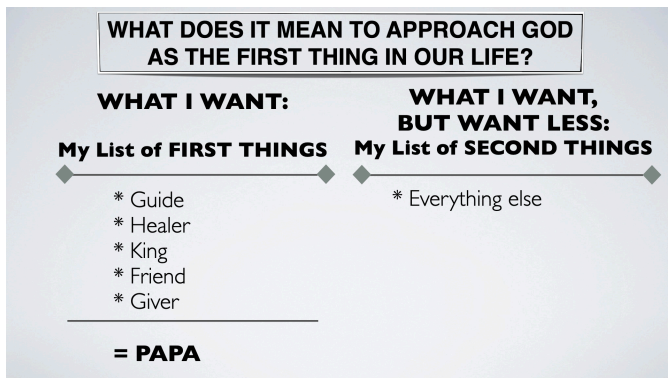


## WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO APPROACH GOD AS THE FIRST THING IN OUR LIFE?

“The central point of prayer is to come to God for first things. As you learn to relationally pray, you will be more able to ask for second things and to mean it when you complete your request with the words, “If it’s Your will.” And your second-thing requests will grow out of your deepest desire to know God better.” ~ Larry Crabb THE PAPA PRAYER

“The key, is to empty our inner space of everything but God and then to approach Him with freely acknowledged emptiness, claiming no hope of fullness unless He fills us. That’s what it means to approach God as the first thing.”

~ Larry Crabb, “THE PAPA PRAYER”



### PRINCIPLES OF PRAYER

1. No believer’s spiritual life will rise to stay above the level of their prayer life.
2. No church’s ultimate effectiveness will rise to stay above the level of its corporate prayer life.
3. No church’s corporate prayer life will be greater than the personal prayer lives of those who make up its membership.
4. No believer’s prayer life will rise to stay above the level of his or her own personal, regular, daily time of worship with God.
5. Your practice of prayer will never rise above your view of prayer.
6. Praise is an indispensable part of a prayer life that is successful.
7. The only way to learn to pray is to pray.

### A QUICK CHECK LIST

- Will you praise God no matter what?
- Are all sins confessed?
- Are all relationships with others made right?
- Are you seeking his will in all things?
- Are you seeking to glorify God above all things?
- Are you depending on the Holy Spirit’s guidance