

Message preached on Sunday Morning, December 8th and 15th, 2024

BELOVED: As we discussed last week...prayer is essential.

- * If we are going to live the life of power...the life of the GREATER.
- * If we are going to accomplish what God told us to accomplish...the GREAT COMMISSION.
- * If we are going to CONQUER and make it through LIFES BATTLES.

You will NEVER do it without prayer.

"Prayer" - is simply addressing God!

BELOVED: Prayer is about connecting to the Father...connecting His heart to your own...preparing yourself...clarifying things...knowing things...it is NOT about talking God out of anything.

You CANNOT fight spiritual battles without prayer...thus the Armor of God. You CANNOT bring God's kingdom into your life without prayer. Matthew 6:10

In the Garden

I am reminded of the Garden of Eden.

- * God created mankind for communion with Himself. Fellowship.
 - * He talked with mankind. <u>Genesis 3:8</u> in the cool of the day. **NOTE:** It was a regular time He interacted with them, but not necessarily the only time.

Genesis 1:26 God gave dominion and authority to man. *To Adam.*

SOMEONE asked God why He started the whole Bible with the phrase, "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth."
GOD ANSWERED: "To establish ownership."
<u>1 Corinthians 10:28b</u> – "...for the earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof:

The EARTH IS the Lords. He gave authority to man to operate it. Basically a rental agreement.

Genesis 3Adam sinned and the enemy took authority away.<u>2 Corinthians 4:4</u> – he became the god of this world.

The enemy took control of what we had been given.

I want to REINSERT one thing here from last week:

* If Eve would have had the Word of the Lord ACTIVE in her heart...this would have never happened...she would have spoke the Word (just like Jesus did in His temptation) and the enemy would have left.

All Kinds of Prayer

- * If Eve (Adam) would have stopped in the middle of the whole situation and talked with God...she wouldn't have made the error.
- * **NOTE:** These are our problems too.

ON THE CROSS: Jesus reclaimed that authority when He was raised from the dead. He took back what Adam had lost.

THEREFORE: Each believer...

- * Has authority over all demons and demonic work.
- * Can pray and have authority through faith in the Name of Jesus.
- * Can use His Word to defeat all powers.
- * Can pray, unfiltered, to the Father...boldly!

HERE IS THE KEY: When we pray...we invited the LANDLORD to come into the PROPERTY and take care of things that are wrong.

ILLUSTRATION: Cliff and Earline's landlord...comes by to chat.

BELOVED: The most important thing that you will ever learn to do is to pray.

To talk with God. To talk and to listen. To enjoy that time. To invite Him in on your situations...situations on earth.

All Kinds of Prayer

<u>Ephesians 6:18</u> – "Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;"

- (MOFFITT) "Praying at all times in the Spirit, with ALL MANNER OF PRAYER and entreaty—be alive to that, attend to it unceasingly, interceding on behalf of all the saints."
- As important as it is to have all the articles of the ARMOR of God on you...and the SWORD of the Spirit... you must pray.
- **HERE IS THE THING:** Most people (Christians) only know one kind of prayer...and it really isn't even a type of prayer...begging.

"Lord, please, help!"

NOW: Some of the most profound prayers have come like this...our bus accident, "Jesus!"

HOWEVER: Prayer isn't just about ASKING...and BEGGING...and WANTING. "*Prayer*" *is* simply addressing God...a dialog...speaking to Him. It is not a complaint box!

ACCORDING to Ephesians 6 (and the rest of the Bible) there are ALL MANNERS of prayer.

When we limit ourselves to basically the supplication (not a great understanding of it) type of prayer...it is NO WONDER why we don't want to pray often.

ILLUSTRATION: Asking dad for money...every now and then...didn't like doing it all the time...feels bad!

Essentials to Prayer

TODAY: I want us to take a look at several types of prayers. Ways to pray.

HOWEVER: Right up front I want to mention a couple things that are essential to every prayer! No matter the type of prayer!

1.) ALL PRAYER must be based on the Word.

That is what Ephesians 6 is all about...get the Word IN...pray the Word OUT! **REMEMBER:** Jesus showed us the example of prayer: "They kingdom come, THY WILL BE DONE!" His Word is His will!

<u>1 John 5:14,15</u>

- And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, *if we ask anything according to his will,* he heareth us:
- 15 And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.

2.) ALL PRAYER must operate by faith.

BELOVED: If you take faith out of your prayer...it is just jibber jabber! James 5:15 – "And the prayer of faith shall save the sick..."

Many people placed FAITH in its own category of prayer...but honestly, if you are not using faith... you cannot effectively pray ANY prayer!

James 1:5-7

- 5 If any of you lack wisdom, *let him ask of God,* that giveth to all men liberally, and up braideth not; and it shall be given him.
- 6 **But let him ask in faith**, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.
- 7 For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.

3.) ALL PRAYER must be in the Name of Jesus.

John 14:13,14

- 13 And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.
- 14 If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it.
- <u>John 15:16</u> "Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you."

John 16:23,26

- And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you.
- At that day ye shall ask in my name: and I say not unto you, that I will pray the Father for you:

Philippians 2:9-11

- 9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him *a name which is above every name*:
- 10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth;
- 11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Types of Prayers

1.) Prayer of communion (fellowship).

This rose up in my spirit as I was searching different lists...and let me tell you, I found some lists (all the way from 4 to 15 types)...yet, I didn't find this on any list....hmmmm.

Exodus 33:11 – "And the LORD spake unto Moses face to face, as a man speaketh unto his friend. And he turned again into the camp: but his servant Joshua, the son of Nun, a young man, departed not out of the tabernacle."

IN THE GARDEN: Adam and Eve walked with God.

THINK ABOUT IT: There wasn't a whole lot wrong to ask Him, was there?

This is a prayer of relationship. Intimate. Like friends.

<u>1 John 1:3</u> – "That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and *truly our fellowship is with the Father*, and with his Son Jesus Christ."

(AMP) - "What we have seen and [ourselves] heard, we are also telling you, so that you too may realize and enjoy fellowship as partners and partakers with us. And [this] fellowship that we have [which is a distinguishing mark of Christians] is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ (the Messiah)."

ILLUSTRATION: Talk about the time I had with God this morning (2 AM).

2.) Prayer of consecration (dedication).

Luke 22:42 – "Saying, Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless **not my will, but thine, be done**."

This is when we dedicate ourselves to Him...to His service...in obedience...just like Jesus did in the garden.

Isaiah 6:1-8

- 1 In the year that king Uzziah died I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple.
- 2 Above it stood the seraphims: each one had six wings; with twain he covered his face, and with twain he covered his feet, and with twain he did fly.
- 3 And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory.
- 4 And the posts of the door moved at the voice of him that cried, and the house was filled with smoke.
- 5 Then said I, Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts.
- 6 Then flew one of the seraphims unto me, having a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with the tongs from off the altar:
- And he laid it upon my mouth, and said, Lo, this hath touched thy lips; and thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin purged.
 NOTE: Don't pray about how bad you are...what a failure you are.

NOTE: Don't pray about now bad you are...what a failure you are.

SURE: It was what he complained about...but it was also a symptom of the problem.

- 8 Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, *Here am I; send me.*
- In Joshua 24, Joshua is speaking to the tribes as he knows it is his time to move on...and is giving them directions.

Part of his speaking reminded them that in the times past, their ancestors had served other Gods...but then made this declaration:

- <u>Joshua 24:15</u> "And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: **but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD**."
- **NOTICE:** Here he is at the end of His life...declaring his consecration to God. I am committed, no matter what!

3.) Prayer of supplication (petition).

YOU SAY: Yep, this is asking, asking and asking some more. **I WOULD SAY:** That is not completely right. It is speaking! It is even presenting a need. <u>1 John 5:15</u> – "And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask (AITEO), we know that we have the petitions (AITEMA) that we desired (AITEO) of him."

"Ask" - <u>Aiteo</u> – to demand or require

"Petitions" - Aitema - to request or require

<u>Philippians 4:6</u> – "Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer (PROSEUCHE) and supplication (DE AY SUS) with thanksgiving let your requests (AITEMA) be made known unto God."

"Prayer" - addressing God, talk to Him

"Supplication" - a seeking, requesting, entreaty to God

"Requests" - requiring

EVEN the point of doing this with thanksgiving, shows that this is NOT about begging or desperation...but about approaching Him with a need...and seeking the answer.

ILLUSTRATION: Talking to the landlord...I need you to do this. Perhaps, you even read to them out of the contract...but you are taking care of the need.

The prayer of supplication is more about speaking the Word (your contract) over your situation...to take care of your situation.

Can you ask? Sure! But ask with the Word in your mouth.

4.) Prayer of intercession.

<u>1 Timothy 2:1</u> – "I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, *intercessions,* and giving of thanks, *be made for all men*;"

"Intercessions" – standing in for someone...praying on behalf of someone else.

LITERALLY: Defined as converse for a cause.

<u>Genesis 18:23-33</u> is a prime example of intercession. God reveals to Abraham that He is going to destroy, Sodom (where Lot is living)... Abraham begins interceding for Sodom... 50? 45? 40? 30? 20? 10? **NOTICE:** He is interceding for the righteous.

- *This is where tongues can and should be used*...often we don't know what is exactly going on...therefore, praying wrong.
- ALSO: Don't pray your will...pray God's Word!

We can have tendency to think we known what is best for a person...so when we pray for them, it is kinda, "Let them see things the way I do."

5.) Prayer of thanksgiving (gratitude)!

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

- 16 Rejoice evermore.
- 17 Pray without ceasing.
- 18 In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

<u>Philippians 4:6</u> – "Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanks giving let your requests be made known unto God."

"*Everything*" – really brings out that point of "praying always with all kinds of prayer"... thanksgiving should always be on your mouth.

Have you ever just sat to pray and been SO FULL OF GRATITUDE that all you did was thank God for His blessings and goodness?

I know I have! There have been times that ONCE I GET started...it is like a run-away boulder of thanksgiving.

HONESTLY: When you start out with thanksgiving...it is difficult to start complaining or griping!

6.) Prayer of praise (adoration)!

Psalm 34:1 – "I will bless the LORD at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth."

This is about adoring God for Who He is...not just for what He's done. It is about His nature and attributes. Knowing Who He is!

"The LORD is my strength and my defense; he has become my salvation. He is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him" Exodus 15:2 (NIV).

- "I will proclaim the name of the LORD. Oh, praise the greatness of our God!" Deuteronomy 32:3 (NIV).
- "The LORD lives! Praise be to my Rock! Exalted be my God, the Rock, my Savior!" 2 Samuel 22:47 (NIV).

"Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts" 1 Chronicles 16:9 (NIV). **NOTE:** Yes...you can sing while praying!

"I will sing the LORD's praise, for he has been good to me" Psalm 13:6 (NIV).

"I will praise the LORD, who counsels me; even at night my heart instructs me" Psalm 16:7 (NIV).

"The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and he helps me. My heart leaps for joy, and with my song I praise him." Psalm 28:7 (NIV).

7.) Prayer of agreement (corporate).

Matthew 18:18-20

- 18 Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.
- 19 Again I say unto you, *That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything that they shall ask*, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven.
- 20 For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.

This is rooted in covenant.

Watch who you call into the prayer of agreement with you! Make sure they are in faith and in the Word.

Don't go onto social media and make an open call...because what many are praying for, you don't want to agree with.

Psalm 133:1-3

- 1 Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!
- 2 It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments;
- 3 As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the LORD commanded the blessing, even life for evermore.

When we agree with one another in prayer...this happens.

FIRST: It will bring victory.

NOTE: Vs. 9 – Moses was interceding on behalf of the armies.

Exodus 17:12 – "But Moses' hands were heavy; and they took a stone, and put it under him, and he sat thereon; and Aaron and Hur stayed up his hands, the one on the one side, and the other on the other side; and his hands were steady until the going down of the sun."

When Moses' hands got tired...he put them down...they began to lose.

Raised hands? Won!

Aaron and Hur help Moses lift his hands in victory over Amalek.

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SECOND: Increases anointing and power.

<u>Acts 2:1-2</u>

- And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, *they were all with one accord in one place*.
- 2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.

NOTICE: They were all in agreement...praying together...for the promises of Jesus.

THIRD: You become more effective in all things.

<u>Deuteronomy 32:30</u> – "How should one chase a thousand, and two put ten thousand to flight, except their Rock had sold them, and the LORD had shut them up?"

You will do things...things will get done...that could have never been done before.

REMEMBER: We are still praying according to His Will...His Word...

UNDERSTAND: We are not ganging up on God or sending a petition signed by a certain number of people.

8.) Prayer of tongues.

The most perfect type of prayer. We taught on that a couple months ago.