



FRESH ENCOUNTER

DEVELOPING AN EFFECTIVE PRAYER LIFE

AUGUST 23, 2023 | PARRY DALZELL

“And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. 6 But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly. 7 But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking. 8 Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him. 9 After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. 10 Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. 11 Give us this day our daily bread. 12 And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. 13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen. 14 For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: 15 But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.” (Matthew 6:5-15)

INTRODUCTION

- Sermon on the Mount (Mt chap 5-7)
- anyone have prayer list with impossible situations or things?
- How not to pray
- How to pray
- Lord's Model Prayer

"Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." (James 5:16)

Quote: "I would rather teach one man to pray than ten men to preach."
—Charles Spurgeon

1. WE MUST DEVELOP A secret PRAYER LIFE (vs. 5-6)

- time spent in prayer more valuable
- pray in your secret secluded room
- * Father is in the secret place
- * any place is holy ground when God is there (Exod 3:5, Josh 5:13-15)

Quote: "The prayer power has never been tried to its full capacity. If we want to see mighty wonders of divine power and grace wrought in the place of weakness, failure, and disappointment, let us answer God's standing challenge, 'Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things which thou knowest not!'" —J. Hudson Taylor

- A. Secret Prayer revives our Relationship with God
- B. Secret Prayer results in Rewards from God

*"And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone."
(Matthew 14:23) Jesus*

"And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, he went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed." (Mark 1:35) Jesus

*"And when he had sent them away, he departed into a mountain to pray."
(Mark 6:46)*

- Jesus went alone to pray uninterrupted

2. WE MUST DEVELOP A Specific PRAYER LIST (vs 7-8)

- prayer list with details
- do not repeat same thing many times
- God your spiritual Father already knows what you need
- pray for something

- A. Specific Prayer Rejects repetition
- B. Specific Prayer Reminds Us of Our reliance on God

3. WE MUST DEVELOP A steadfast PRAYER LIFE (vs. 9-13)

- Lord's Prayer is a model prayer
- what do we need from God today?
- we need God desperately
- praying every day & often

"Pray without ceasing." (1 Thessalonians 5:17)

"Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;"
(Ephesians 6:18)

"Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God." (Philippians 4:6-7)

CONCLUSION The Lord's Prayer

- Give glory to God's name
- Give priority to God's will
- Ask for your daily food & thank God for it
- Ask for God's forgiveness
 - give forgiveness to others
- God deliver us from the Evil One
 - do not lead us into temptation
 - give us a way of escape from temptation
- The kingdom, the power, & the glory belong to God