

Praying At All Times

October 8th & 9th, 2016

Ephesians 6:18

“praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints,”

Prayer is communication with God!

Prayer: (Greek – *proseuchomai*) “‘to pray,’ is always used of ‘prayer’ to God,...”¹

- Matthew 6:5-15
 - Ã Pray in secret and God will reward you!
 - Ã Pray simply and God will hear you!
 - Ã Pray to the Father in heaven, asking that His kingdom will come and His will be done!

Prayer is necessary for victory against our adversary!

- ❖ We can be equipped with all of the armor of God but if we are out of touch with our commander, the Lord Jesus, we will be isolated and vulnerable to the enemy!
- ❖ Prayer is the means by which we keep in constant communication with God, having our mind set on doing His will! *“praying at all times...” Ephesians 6:18*
 - Jesus’ example of constant communication with His Father:
John 5:19 “So Jesus said to them, ‘Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of His own accord, but only what He sees the Father doing. For whatever the Father does, that the Son does likewise.’”
John 12:49 “For I have not spoken on my own authority, but the Father who sent Me has Himself given Me a commandment—what to say and what to speak.”

Prayer must be Spirit led! “praying at all times in the Spirit...”

- ❖ Christians are in the Spirit!
 - Romans 8:9-17
- ❖ The Holy Spirit is our Helper!
John 16:7 “Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send Him to you.”
- ❖ The Holy Spirit prays according to God’s will!
Romans 8:26-27 “Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. And He who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.”

Prayer includes supplication!

- ❖ Supplication is a petition or request for something we desire.

Psalm 37:4 “Delight yourself in the Lord, and He will give you the desires of your heart.”

❖ We are to make supplication for all the saints!

Ã Epaphras is a Godly example of praying for others.

Colossians 4:12 “Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant of Christ Jesus, greets you, always struggling on your behalf in his prayers, that you may stand mature and fully assured in all the will of God.”

Prayer requires perseverance! “...keep alert with all perseverance, ...”

❖ We must persevere in prayer to see breakthroughs in the enemy's forces!

Breakthrough: “a military movement or advance all the way through and beyond an enemy's front-line defense.”²

Ã Perseverance means constant pursuit!

- Daniel 10:12-14

Luke 18:1-8 “[Jesus] told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart....”

1 Thessalonians 5:17 “pray without ceasing”

A prayer-less life is a prideful life!

❖ To walk in victory over our adversary requires full dependence on God!

Proverbs 3:5-6 “Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths.”

Colossians 4:2

*“Continue steadfastly in prayer,
being watchful in it with thanksgiving.”*

Endnotes:

¹ Vine, W.E. *Vine's Expository Dictionary of Old & New Testament Words*. Nashville: T. Nelson Publishers, 1997.

² "breakthrough." *Dictionary.com*. © 2016 Dictionary.com, LLC. <http://www.dictionary.com/browse/breakthrough>

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