

- - - Breakthrough Prayer - - -

Why Pray:

- 1.) Prayer is our lifeline to knowing God
 - a. Without knowing God we are left to rules (2Cor. 3:6- for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.)
 - i. Letter – knowing what’s expected by God and trying to do it without friendship with God
 - ii. Spirit – Life of being friends with God through Holy Spirit
 - iii. Friends grow in friendship by spending time together
 - iv. Prayer is how we talk and listen to God
- 2.) Prayer is one of the 3 “when yous” that are at the core of Jesus teaching
 - a. God will sometimes give us a small flame of passion for him. It’s up to us to put wood on that fire (Song 1:4) The “When Yous” are the logs.
 - b. When you give to the poor (Matt. 6:2)
 - c. When you Pray (6:5)
 - d. When you fast (6:16)
 - e. These 3 things are at the core of how we walk out our Christian walk – It’s like putting firewood on our heart
- 3.) Prayer is how God rules the universe (Joel 2:12-14)

9 Principles of prayer

- 1.) Principle of “Praying through” or not letting go (Gen 32:22-30)
 - a. Deep prayer starts when we are truly alone with God (Gen. 32:24)
 - i. V.24 Then Jacob was left alone;
 1. Alone from thoughts from the day, idols of the heart, and everything that would keep us from truly connecting with Him
 2. Jesus taught to go into your room and shut the door (Matt.6:6)

- b. Don't just ask a prayer- Meet with God and stay with Him in that request (**Gen 32:24**)
 - i. V.24 -Then Jacob was left alone; and a Man wrestled with him until the breaking of day.
- c. Pray until you move from a sense of prayer to intimacy
 - i. Gen 32:30 So Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: "For I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved."
- d. Side affects of deep prayer – God changing our character (v.28)
 - i. Gen 32:28 And He said, "Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel,^[b] for you have struggled with God and with men, and have prevailed."
- e. Pray until you sense praise instead of prayer – David did this (Psa 57:2-5)
- f. God rewards those who earnestly seek Him (Heb 11:6)

2.) Principle that persistent prayer is the prayer of faith (Luk 18:4-8)

- a. Luk 18:8 when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?"

3.) Principle of mixing friendship prayer with Intercession

- a. Abraham – as a friend of God was invited into deeper place of intercession
 - i. **Jas 2:23** "*Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.*" And he was called the friend of God.
 - ii. **Gen 18:17** ^(N) The LORD said, "Shall I hide from Abraham ^(O) what I am about to do
- b. David – knew the personality of God in an incredible way and God heard his prayers (2Sa 24:25; Ps. 4:1; Ps. 17:1; Ps. 55:1; Ps. 61:1)
- c. Develop Friendship with God through Prayer. Intercession is one type of prayer. Others are...

- i. Worship (Matt. 6:9)
- ii. Waiting on God/ Silence (Ps 37:7; Psa 130:5-6)
- iii. Talking and listening to Him (Hab. 2:1-2)
- iv. Interacting with him in our hearts as we read his word – This is the way to develop a burning heart of passion for God – It’s technically prayer (Luke 24:32)

4.) **Principle of praying the prayers of the bible** (Eph. 1:17-19; Eph. 3:16-19; Phil. 1:9-11; Col. 1:9-12; Rom. 15:5-7; Rom. 15:13; 1 Thes. 5:23-24; Rom. 10:1; 2 Thes. 1:11-12; 2 Thes. 3:1-5)

- a. Prayer prayers Holy Spirit put right in our bible for people, issues, and whatever is on your heart

5.) **Principle of knowing God’s character**

- a. Helps us not be worn out in prayer – loving Father (Mat 7:7-11)
- b. We can plead God’s character to him as Moses, David, and Abraham, Daniel did.
 - i. DAVID- Psa 17:7 Show Your marvelous lovingkindness by Your right hand,O You who save those who trust *in You* From those who rise up *against them*.
 - ii. MOSES - Num 14:17-19 And now, I pray, let the power of my Lord be great, just as You have spoken, saying, ‘The LORD is longsuffering and abundant in mercy, forgiving iniquity and transgression; but He by no means clears *the guilty*, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth *generation*.’^[b]
Pardon the iniquity of this people, I pray, according to the greatness of Your mercy, just as You have forgiven this people, from Egypt even until now.
 - iii. ABRAHAM - Gen 18:25-26 Far be it from You to do such a thing as this, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous should be as the wicked; far be it from You! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?”
So the LORD said, “If I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, then I will spare all the place for their sakes.”

6.) We don't know how to pray and aren't good at it (Rom. 8:26)

- a. We are bad at prayer because we lack
 - i. Power – Prayer feels weak to me
 - ii. Focus – Our minds wonder
 - iii. Knowledge - of what to pray for
 - iv. Heart - of God on what we are praying for.
- b. Holy Spirit has all 4 of these things
 - i. Power – Holy Spirit gives us strength to pray (Jude 1:20; Act 1:8)
 - ii. Focus – We have the mind of Christ (1Co 2:16)
 - iii. Knowledge – God is all-knowing (Dan 2:20-22)
 - iv. Heart – Holy Spirit circumcises our heart (Rom 2:29)

7.) Principle of Faith that he hears us

- a. 1Jn 5:14-15 Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.

8.) Principle of engaging in spiritual battles from the place of victory

- a. Jesus triumphed over every power of darkness on the cross. We enforce this victory through prayer (Col. 2:15)
- b. All powers of darkness are subordinate to Jesus Christ and we are seated with Him (Ep 1:20-21; Ep 2:6)

9.) Principle of praying targeted prayers. (Matt 21:22)

- a. And whatever things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive."
- b. Using a prayer list. Pray daily for..
 - 1.) People believers and unbelievers (3 people).
 - 2.) Issues that grip your heart
 - 3.) Personal (character, intimacy, anointing)