

The power of personal prayer

Relational prayer with God will cause you to STAND FIRM, part 6

Chris Mueller Philippians 4:6b-7

Introduction:

#1 WHY SHOULD I PRAY?

#2 WHAT KIND OF PRAYER IS ANSWERED BY GOD?

God answers prayer which are... in keeping with the will of God (1 John 5:14-15); made in faith (Hebrews 11:6; Matthew 17:20); made by a person who has confessed and given up sin (Psalm 66:18; Isaiah 59:1-2); made under the direction and power of the Holy Spirit (Jude 20); made by a person who has forgiven others (Matthew 18:21-35); made by a person who is in harmony with others (Matthew 5:23-24, 1 Peter 3:7); made in the name of Jesus, which means it is in harmony with His purpose and concerns (John 14:13; 15:16); persistently offered (Luke 11:5-8); and asked for unselfishly (James 4:2-3).

#3 WHY DO WE PRAY IN JESUS' NAME?

#4 WHAT DOES IT MEAN WHEN MY PRAYERS GO UNANSWERED?

#5 WHY IS PRAYER SO IMPORTANT?

Relational prayer with God will cause you to STAND FIRM

REVIEW

STAND FIRM verse 1

1st pursue relational harmony verse 2-3

2nd cultivate a spirit of joy verse 4

3rd develop a heart of humility verse 5

4th rest on a confident faith verse 6a

The way you deal with problems, temptations, hurts, and difficulties is a reflection of your view of God.

6 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

#1 The C_____ to relational prayer

1st 'Instead of _____, pray *Be anxious for nothing, but*

2nd _____ prayer *but in everything by prayer and supplication*

1 Thessalonians 5:17 *pray without ceasing*

PRAYER is any form of *reverent conversation* directed at the Triune God.

SUPPLICATION is the humble cry for the fulfillment of needs that are keenly felt.

Mark 9:24 *Immediately the boy's father cried out and said, "I do believe; help my unbelief."*

3rd _____ prayer *in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving*

Colossians 4:2 *Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with an attitude of thanksgiving*

4th _____ prayer *let your requests be made known to God*

5th _____ and CONSISTENT prayer *be made known to God*

1 Be _____ in prayer

*Luke 18:1 Now He was telling them a parable to show that at all times they ought to pray and not to lose heart 6 And the Lord said, "Hear what the unrighteous judge *said; 7 now shall not God bring about justice for His elect, who cry to Him day and night, and will He delay long over them? 8 I tell you that He will bring about justice for them speedily."*

Psalms 69:13 O God, in the greatness of Thy lovingkindness, Answer me with Thy saving truth. 16 Answer me, O Lord, for Thy lovingkindness is good; According to the greatness of Thy compassion, turn to me, 17 And do not hide Thy face from Thy servant, For I am in distress; answer me quickly.

Ephesians 6:18 With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints

2 Be _____ in prayer

1 Peter 5:7 casting all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you.

#2 The C _____ of relational prayer

1st A _____ peace *7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension*

Isaiah 26:3 The steadfast of mind You will keep in perfect peace, Because he trusts in You.

John 14:27 "Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, nor let it be fearful."

Peace is...

2nd A _____ of heart and mind *will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus*

QUESTIONS FOR GROWTH

1. What do non-believers think of prayer?
2. What are the most important truths about prayer a Christian must not forget?
3. Why should we pray if God knows everything in advance already?
4. What kind of prayer does God answer?
5. Why is worry and prayer linked in verse 6?
6. Why must prayer include thanksgiving?
7. What excuses do we make in order to justify our lack of prayer?
8. What kind of habits can I cultivate in order to stop worrying and start praying without ceasing?
9. What difference does it make whether I pray, or whether I pray in a relational manner?
10. What steps will I take this week to increase my prayer life for God's glory?

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