



## Teaching Notes: Ray Davis

April 25, 2010

### Prayer

(Laying hold of God's Willingness)

## desert breeze community church

### "FOCUS"

"Prayer is not overcoming God's reluctance, but laying hold of His willingness." - Martin Luther.

Spiritual revival is an intensified work of the Holy Spirit. The work of the Holy Spirit is to make the person and work of Christ more real. (John 14-16) This produces in us a greater Attentiveness to Sin, Assurance of Grace, and Awareness of God's presence.

All of these spiritual awakenings (revivals) are somewhat different in origin. But, Biblically and historically, the one non-negotiable for revival is personal and corporate consistent, compelling Kingdom-centered prayer.

### Kingdom-Centered Prayer Focuses on...

Luke 11:1-13

#### 1) Eternal Blessings over Temporal

- ✓ Temporal Blessings – food, clothing, housing, health, work success, etc.
- ✓ Eternal Blessings – holiness (1 Thess. 4:3), Power of God through intimacy (2 Pet. 1:3-4), Love of God in our hearts (Rom. 5:5), Greater awareness of our sonship (Gal. 4:7), Presence of God (Ps. 16:11), Fellowship with God through the Holy Spirit (1 John 1:3).

The fact we pray more fervently and frequently for temporal over eternal blessings reveals the idolatry of what our hearts are really after and ultimately trusting in.

Biblical Example: Judges 10:9-16 - Israel renounced their idols regardless of whether God answers their prayer for temporal blessings.

Eph. 3:16-19

#### 2) Internal change over external (Character vs. Circumstances)

- ✓ External change is prayer for circumstance enhancement.
- ✓ Internal change is inner strength, intimacy with Christ, experience His love, and God saturated life. (Rom. 8:15-16)

Historical example: DL Moody – "I would not now be placed back where I was before that blessed experience if you should give me the whole world."

Exodus 33:13-20

#### 3) God's Glory over mans (mine)

Moses is saying I'd rather have your glory and wander around in the wilderness than to go into the promise land without it.

To live for God's Glory means: Everyone longs to be happy. The most enduring happiness is found only in God. Not from God, but in God. The happiness we find in God finds its consummation when it is shared with others in the manifold ways of love. People who live for God's Glory create a whole new human society that promotes the flourishing of others enjoyment of God for the Glory of God.

Why did God make us? To glorify himself by making us immeasurably happy in himself. Why does DB exist? To lead people into the enjoyment of God for the glory of God.

- ✓ Personally v13
- ✓ Corporately v15
- ✓ To be seen by the world V16

Fast one meal this week and pray for God's Glory personally, corporately and that it would be seen by the world. That we would create a whole new human society in which business practices, race relations, family life, work and rest, sex, money, and power are all used to serve and promote the flourishing of others enjoyment of God for the Glory of God.



# Growing

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- 1) Spiritual revival is an intensified work of the Holy Spirit making the person and work of Christ more real. What are the implications to you personally, your family and DB family? What is Biblically and historically, the one non-negotiable for revival?
- 2) Read Luke 11:1-13. What does Jesus teach us about the pattern and persistence of prayer? Kingdom centered prayer focuses on eternal vs. temporal blessings. Explain. How does v13 emphasize this?
- 3) What does the fact that we pray more fervently and frequently for temporal over eternal blessings reveal? Read Eph. 3:16-19. Paul is praying for Christians who by definition already have Christ dwelling within them! So, what is he asking for?
- 4) Read Exodus 33:13-20. Moses wants to know God's glorious presence, but not just for himself. He wants the community of God's people to evidence the beauty and visible reality of God so that the world is awed by God's Glory. If God is most Glorified in us when we are most satisfied in Him. What will this look like in your life and the life of our church?
- 5) Fast one meal this week and pray for God's Glory personally, corporately and that it would be seen by the world. That we would create a whole new human society in which business practices, race relations, family life, work and rest, sex, money, and power are all used to serve and promote the flourishing of others enjoyment of God for the Glory of God.