

THRIVE

(Habits of Grace)

desert breeze
community church



Saturday & Sunday, October 1/2, 2016 Ray Davis

“PRAYER” Matthew 6:5-15

Prayer is an amazing privilege filled with astounding promise (James 4:2; 5:16)! Prayer causes things to happen that would otherwise not happen if we didn't pray. We have been offered the amazing privilege of engaging with God in such way that we have an astounding promise that our requests can bring to past events in the Universe that would otherwise not happen if we don't pray. It would be of unbelievable folly to not avail ourselves of this privilege and promise.

What It Is?

- It is finding our way from discipline to delight. vv5, 6, 7 “and when you pray...” 3xs (discipline) v6c “and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.” (delight)
- It is conversation with God. v7 “do not heap up empty phrases...” v8 “your Father knows what you need before you ask Him.” (Gen3:8).
- It is seeking a heart sense of God's presence. v6 pray to your Father...and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. v8 your Father knows what you need before you ask Him. v9 Pray then like this: “Our Father in Heaven...” v14 your heavenly Father will...forgive you. (Eph 1:15-23; 3:14-21)

What It Does?

- It requires and creates honesty and humility. v5 And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites... v6 But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.
- It renews your perspective. v6a your Father who is in secret (omnipresent) v6b your Father who sees in secret (omniscient) v8b for your Father knows what you need before you ask Him. (loving) vv9-13 Our Father in heaven...(Your perfect Father who rules the Universe hears your prayers, meets your needs, forgives your sins, and will lead your life.) (Ps73:13-20)
- It produces restful trust, confident hope and profound love. vv9-13 Praying the Lord's Prayer will produce these things. (Eph6:10-20)

How to Do It? vv9-13

- “Our Father Who Art in Heaven” (The Basis)
- “Hollowed Be Thy Name” (Adoration)
- “Thy Kingdom Come, Thy will be done...” (Intercession)
- “Give Us This Day Our Daily Bread” (Petition)
- “Forgive Us Our Debts as We Forgive Our Debtors” (Confession/Forgiveness)
- “Lead us not into Temptation, but Deliver us from Evil.” (Aspiration)

Growing Notes

What are your thoughts & feelings about introduction to the sermon? Does your value of prayer reflect that? Explain.

Pray (Ps119:18, 37) and then read Matthew 6:5-15

Follow this three step model for Bible Study:

Step 1: Observation—What does the passage say?

What key words, repetitive words or phrases, etc. stand out to you?

What is he talking about (Subject)? What is he saying about what he is talking about (Compliment)? i.e. The subject is prayer what is he saying about prayer?

What name did Jesus call people who pray for show? Why? (v5)

Where & how did Jesus say we should pray (vv6-13)?

Step 2: Interpretation—What does the passage mean?

First: What did the original author intend to convey to his readers in this passage? Second: What role does this text play in the whole Bible; how does it contribute to the gospel message?

What does this teach me about God? About human nature, character, and behavior? About Christ and His Salvation? About the church, or life with the people of God?

Step 3: Application—What am I going to do about what the passage says and means? S.P.E.C.K = Sin to confess? Promise to claim? An Example to follow? Command to obey? Knowledge about God?

Am I living in light of this? What difference does this make? Am I taking this seriously? If I believed and held to this, how would that change things? When I forget this, how does that affect me and all my relationships?

What is God speaking to you from this study?

Meditate on a key verse or thought and respond in prayer.