



“The Power of Prayer”
1 Thessalonians 5:12-22
Sermon Date: July 4, 2010

Prayer:

In 1 Thessalonians 5:17 we are instructed to “pray without ceasing.” In other words, pray constantly. Even though we set aside blocks of time for more focused and dedicated prayer, that should not be the only time we are communicating with God. Prayer is to be part of our lifestyle, a constant fellowship with and dependence upon God. Begin this week to make prayer a continual part of your daily life.

Scripture:

Read the following passages and write down what they tell us about prayer.

Mathew 6:5-15 –

1 John 5:13-15 –

Luke 22:39-46 –

Study Questions:

How do our prayers change when we begin to pray that the Lord’s will be done and not ours (Matt. 6:10)? How do you prevent yourself from allowing your prayer time to become solely a wish list presentation before the Lord (1 John 5:13-15, Matthew 6:9-10)?

Read the story of the Pharisee and the tax collector in Luke 18:9-14. What do we learn about prayer from this story? Do you to approach God in prayer with the humility of the tax collector or the arrogance of the Pharisee? (Matt. 6:5-6)

What role do the adoration of God (Matt. 6:9, Psalm 146:1-2), confession of our sins (1 John 1:9, Matt. 6:12), and thanksgiving for His provision (Phil. 4:6, Col. 4:2) have in prayer? Do you regularly pray these things in conjunction with your requests?

Do you find it difficult to wait on the Lord for answers to your requests? In what ways does Romans 8:26-18 encourage you in this?

“As it is the business of tailors to make clothes and of cobblers to mend shoes, so it is the business of Christians to pray.”

Martin Luther