

ROOTED IN PRAYER #2

GOING DEEPER IN PRAYER

Luke 18:9–14 (NKJV)

9 Also He spoke this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others:

10 “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector.

11 The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, ‘God, I thank You that I am not like other men—extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector.

12 I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess.’

13 And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me a sinner!’

14 I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

I. Review:

Generally speaking, there are two aspects to our prayer life.

1. Prayer without ceasing – _____ (1 Thessalonians 5:17 & Ephesians 5:17-19)
2. Closet prayer – Dedicated _____, _____ and _____ (Matthew 6:5-6)

II. Key Attitudes of Prayer

1. _____:

2 Chronicles 7:14 (KJV 1900)

14 If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

Humility gives us a proper sense of awe of and dependence on God

Psalms 51:17 (KJV 1900)

17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: A broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

2. _____:

James 1:6–7 (KJV 1900)

6 But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.

7 For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.

Prayer without faith is merely a ritualistic duty or a powerless act of superstition.

Hebrews 11:6 (KJV 1900)

6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

Faith connects our prayers to heaven.

3. _____:

Hebrews 4:15–16 (KJV 1900)

15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.

16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

4. _____:

Psalms 27:14 (NKJV)

14 Wait on the LORD; Be of good courage, And He shall strengthen your heart; Wait, I say, on the LORD!

Prayer has been described as a river. There are times that it moves fast and other times when it settles down. Yet, even when the river is calm the current is still there.

5. _____:

Romans 8:15 (KJV 1900)

15 For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

6. _____:

Vulnerability and transparency are indispensable to an effective prayer life.

Psalms 142:1–2 (NKJV)

1 I cry out to the LORD with my voice; With my voice to the LORD I make my supplication.

2 I pour out my complaint before Him; I declare before Him my trouble.

III. Key Sounds of Prayer

1. Prayer is _____:

Praying aloud is a Biblical practice. It is difficult to find examples of silent prayer in the Scriptures.

Hebrews 13:15 (NKJV)

15 Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name.

Verbal prayer is an important and powerful spiritual discipline.

a. The spoken word is _____:

Proverbs 18:21 (NKJV)

21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue, And those who love it will eat its fruit.

b. Speaking is an _____:

2 Corinthians 4:13 (NKJV)

13 And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, "I believed and therefore I spoke," we also believe and therefore speak,

c. Our words produce spiritual results:

Romans 10:10 (NKJV)

10 For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

2. Prayer through _____:**Romans 8:26–27 (NKJV)**

26 Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

27 Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

Groaning in the Greek text is the word *stenagmos*, meaning "to cry"

Psalms 38:9 (KJV 1900)

9 Lord, all my desire is before thee; And my groaning is not hid from thee.

Psalms 102:19–20 (KJV 1900)

19 For he hath looked down from the height of his sanctuary; From heaven did the LORD behold the earth;

20 To hear the groaning of the prisoner; To loose those that are appointed to death;

The Hebrew word for "Groan"

651 *ל. נַחֲנָחַ ('ānā-qā(h)): n.fem.; ≡ Str 603; TWOT 134a—LN 25.135–25.145 groaning, sighing, wailing, i.e., the sounds of persons in grief or physical distress (Ps 12:6[EB 5]; 79:11; 102:21[EB 20]; Mal 2:13+)*

Sharing grief and emotion with God is essential to our _____ with Him:

James 4:8–10 (KJV 1900)

8 Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.

9 Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness.

10 Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

3. Praying in _____:

Praying in tongues is an important part of the NT believer's life.

1 Corinthians 14:14-15 (NKJV)

14 For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my understanding is unfruitful.

15 What is the conclusion then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will also pray with the understanding. I will sing with the spirit, and I will also sing with the understanding.

In 1 Corinthians 14, Paul give important guidance for speaking in tongues.

We can identify three uses of tongues in the New Testament church:

- a. The _____ of being filled with the baptism of the Holy Spirit.
- b. Personal _____.
- c. Public utterance to be _____.

The physical and spiritual process is very similar in each case, but the purpose and effect are different.

The "gift of tongues" is only for some, while receiving the gift of the Holy Ghost evidenced by speaking in tongues is part of the new birth and is for everyone.

The "gift of tongues" is regulated in public worship as to frequency, necessity of interpretation, and purpose.

No such regulations apply to speaking in tongues when receiving the gift of the Holy Ghost or in personal devotion.

Praying in tongues helps us in several ways:

- a. It _____ when we don't know what to say.

1 Corinthians 14:2 (NKJV)

2 For he who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God, for no one understands him; however, in the spirit he speaks mysteries.

- b. It _____.

1 Corinthians 14:4 (NKJV)

4 He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself, but he who prophesies edifies the church.

- c. It _____.

Jude 20 (NKJV)

20 But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit,