

**“A MEANINGFUL AND CONSISTENT
PRAYER LIFE — THAT’S WHAT WE
WANT.”**

BOB SORGE, *RESET*, P. 7

**WHEN YOU HEAR THE WORD
"PRAYER" WHAT IS YOUR FIRST
THOUGHT?**

LOTTERY TICKET MEETS FORTUNE COOKIE



**9-1-1
EMERGENCY
ROOM
PRAYER**



KITCHEN TABLE PRAYER



POTTER'S WHEEL PRAYER



FOR THIS REASON

**PRAYER'S
PURPOSE
& POSTURE**

A Gateway Message

KEY TEXT:

EPHESIANS 3:14-21

REVELATION 2:1-7

14 “For this reason I kneel before the Father, 15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. 16 I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, 17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, 18 may have power, together with all the Lord’s holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, 19 and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

20 Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, 21 to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.”

Ephesians 3:14-21

"PRAYER IS OUR MOTHER TONGUE. OUR CHURCH BEGINS IN PRAYER (*ACTS 1:14*), STAYS CENTERED IN PRAYER (*MATTHEW 6:5, 1 THESSALONIANS 5:17*), AND ENDS IN PRAYER (*EPHESIANS 6:18-20, REVELATION 21:17*)."

**EUGENE PETERSON, *PRACTICING RESURRECTION*, P. 148
(*references added by Pastor Lance*)**

PRAYER'S PURPOSE:

"FOR THIS REASON..."

- **PRAYER IS THE INTERSECTION BETWEEN DIVINITY AND HUMANITY.**
- **PRAYER EMPOWERS US TO HUMANLY AND FAITHFULLY LIVE RICH THEOLOGICAL TRUTHS, BEARING WITNESS TO THE GOSPEL OF JESUS.**
- **PRAYER EMPOWERS US FOR THE "NOW", AND WISELY MAKES US READY "FOR THE NOT YET".**

PRAYER'S PURPOSE:

"FOR THIS REASON..."

- **EPHESIANS 2 SUMMARY:**
 - **DEAD IN SIN**
 - **MADE ALIVE IN CHRIST**
 - **A NEW MAN IS CREATED**
 - **CITIZENS & MEMBERS WITH ACCESS TO GOD**
 - **BECOMING THE TEMPLE & DWELLING PLACE OF GOD**

PRAYER'S PURPOSE:

"FOR THIS REASON..."

- **THIS KIND OF PRAYING IS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE NATURE AND PROMISES OF GOD, NOT THE PUNY PROCLAMATION OF PROBLEMS AND EFFORT.**

PRAYER'S PURPOSE:

"FOR THIS REASON..."

- **EPHESIANS 3:14-21 SUMMARY:**
 - **NAMED BY GOD**
 - **STRENGTHENED WITH POWER IN THE INNER PERSON**
 - **CHRIST DWELLS IN YOUR HEART THROUGH FAITH**
 - **ROOTED AND GROUNDED IN LOVE**
 - **COMPREHEND THE LOVE OF GOD WITH ALL HIS SAINTS**
 - **BE FILLED WITH ALL THE FULLNESS OF GOD!**

PRAYER'S POSTURE:

"...I KNEEL BEFORE THE FATHER..."

- 1. REVERENCE**
- 2. HUMILITY**
- 3. GRATITUDE**
- 4. EARNESTNESS**



ATTITUDE OF THE HEART

PUT THIS MESSAGE INTO PRACTICE:

- 1. START PRAYER WITH 1 MINUTE OF SILENCE.**
- 2. SEE YOURSELF AT THE DINNER TABLE WITH THE FATHER.**
- 3. PRAY EPHESIANS 3:14-21, PATIENTLY!**
- 4. KNEEL, OR BOW YOUR HEAD, IF POSSIBLE.**
- 5. DOCUMENT WHAT THE LORD SAYS TO YOU, AND THEN PRAY IT.**