Love is the single, most significant reason to have a consistent prayer life.



When the Spirit of God strengthens our prayer life, we receive 5 upgrades:

- 1. Pray.
- 2. Pray joyfully.
- 3. Pray confidently.
- 4. Pray consistently.
- 5. Pray effectively.

"Nothing distinguishes the children of God so clearly and strongly as prayer. Prayer expresses a relation to God, a yearning for divine communion. It is the outward and upward flow of the inward life toward its original fountain. Almighty God still loves to hear his people pour their hearts to him in prayer and promises to respond with blessing and power."

- Jim Cymbala, Complete Works on Prayer by EM Bounds

"God does nothing but in answer to prayer. Every new victory which a soul gains is the effect of a new prayer."

- John Wesley

My pastoral hope is that we understand the urgency of this moment, receive His strengthening and participate with His grace that is at work in us, bearing the fruit of a strengthened prayer life.

A consistent prayer life is essential for growing in our union with King Jesus and receiving God's provision.

Acts 17:1-10 1 Thessalonians 5:17 (Philippians 4:6; Luke 18:1; Ephesians 6:18)

The call and privilege to pray are for everyone; <u>everyone can grow in</u> prayer.

Three Tips for Consistent Prayer*

- 1. Keep it simple.
- 2. Keep it real.
- 3. Keep it up.

* From Pete Grieg, "How to Pray"

1. Keep it Simple

- 1. Seek King Jesus (Psalm 27:4)
- 2. Surrender to King Jesus (Mark 10:21)
- 3. Worship King Jesus (Luke 10:42)
- 4. Remember King Jesus (John 9:25)
- 5. Be faithful to King Jesus (Philippians 3:13-14)

The Glory of God in Consistent Prayer

- 1. Prayer
- 2. Altar
- 3. Sacrifice
- 4. Fire

2 Chronicles 7:1-3

2. Keep it Real

- 1. Crises and Disappointment
- 2. Dependence and Prosperity
- 3. Beauty of God and Self

2. Keep it Real

- 1. Return to Prayer
- 2. Revere His Name
- 3. Remember His Goodness
- 4. Repent and Renounce

2. Keep it Real

- 5. Release Control
- 6. Relinquish the Burdens
- 7. Request
- 8. Receive
- 9. Rejoice

3. Keep it Up

- 1. Schedule
- 2. Prioritize
- 3. Be Patient
- 4. Return when Distracted
- 5. Ask for Help

"Our prayer life shapes our legacy."

- Pete Greig



I'm sharing this with you because the call and privilege to pray are for everyone; <u>everyone can grow in prayer!</u>

How can lapply this message?

- 1. Pinpoint which "One Thing" you can focus on in prayer this week.
- 2. See distractions in prayer as a strengthening of your resolve to pray. Avoid negativity.
- 3. Implement a prayer model (if needed).
- 4. Build an altar for prayer (a room, chair, heart posture.)