

Persistent Prayer

- Review: 1. Actively Wait on the Lord (Prayer)
Partner with Him to Execute Justice in the Earth
2. We are King Priests
Ruling the Earth from Heaven through Intercession (air superiority)
3. We are the Temple of God (Presence)
the Primary Purpose of His House is Prayer
4. Word, Prayer, Corporate Unity
Supplication and Declaration - Pray and Declare the Word

“Teach us to Pray” (vs 1) – Lord’s Prayer

(Lk 11:5-13) ⁵And He said to them, “Which of you shall have a friend, and go to him at midnight and say to him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves; ⁶for a friend of mine has come to me on his journey, and I have nothing to set before him’; ⁷“and he will answer from within and say, ‘Do not trouble me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot rise and give to you’? ⁸“I say to you, though he will not rise and give to him because he is his friend, yet because of his **persistence** he will rise and give him as many as he needs.

Persistence = “Shameless **Audacity**”

⁹“So I say to you, **ask**, and it will be given to you; **seek**, and you will find; **knock**, and it will be opened to you. ¹⁰“For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. ¹¹“If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? ¹²“Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? ¹³“If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!”

Determination

Previous Context: Coming of the Kingdom (Justice to the Earth)

(Lk 18:1-8) ¹Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart, ²saying: “There was in a certain city a judge who did not fear God nor regard man. ³“Now there was a widow in that city; and she came to him, saying, ‘Get justice for me from my adversary.’ ⁴“And he would not for a while; but afterward he said within himself, ‘Though I do not fear God nor regard man, ⁵yet because this widow troubles me I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.’” ⁶Then the Lord said, “Hear what the unjust judge said. ⁷“And shall God not avenge His own elect who cry out day and night to Him, though He bears long with them? ⁸“I tell you that He will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?”

Audacity, Determination, Persistence

problem: losing heart, losing faith (we are the weaker partner)

(1Th 5:17) pray without ceasing (first recourse, persistence)

(Ro 12:12) continuing steadfastly in prayer

(Col 4:2) Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving

(Ga 4:19) My little children, for whom I labor in birth again until Christ is formed in you

(Heb 6:11-12) And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope until the end, that you do not become sluggish, but imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

(Heb 10:35-36) Therefore do not cast away your confidence, which has great reward. For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise

(Heb 11:6) But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

process/time (reaping and sowing) – faith over time

(Ga 6:7-9) ⁷Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. ⁸For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life. ⁹And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.

(Isa 55:8-11) ⁸“For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways,” says the LORD. ⁹“For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts. ¹⁰“For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, and do not return there, but water the earth, and make it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater, ¹¹so shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.

Prayer Declarations: compared to the cycle of seasons (Jam 5:7-9)

prayer is not just about answers, but...

Intimacy

(Mt 26:37-38) And He took with Him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and He began to be sorrowful and deeply distressed. Then He said to them, “My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch with Me.”

(Heb 12:2-3) looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith...lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls.

vs. religious duty (Mal 1:13) - weariness

(Ps 24:6) This is Jacob, the generation of those who seek Him, who seek Your face.

(Ge 32:26) he (Jacob) said, “I will not let You go unless You bless me!”

(Ps 27:8) When You said, “Seek My face,” my heart said to You, “Your face, LORD, I will seek.”

(Je 29:12-13) Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.

strengthening

(Ep 3:16) that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, (next verse; know His love)

(Jude 20-21) But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

air superiority/declarations (Daniel 10)

(Je 23:29) “Is not My word like a fire?” says the LORD, “and like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces?”

consuming (instant), relentless (persistence)

renewed mind/declarations

all of these happen over time (process)

Generational Prayer: developing a Culture of Prayer

(Ps 25:10) All the paths of the LORD are mercy and truth, to such as keep His covenant and His testimonies.

(Ps 119:2) Blessed are those who keep His testimonies, who seek Him with the whole heart!

The power of story

(Ps 78:4-7) We will not hide them from their children, telling to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, and His strength and His wonderful works that He has done. For He established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which He commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children; that the generation to come might know them, the children who would be born, that they may arise and declare them to their children, that they may set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep His commandments;

(Jdg 2:10-11) When all that generation had been gathered to their fathers, another generation arose after them who did not know the LORD nor the work which He had done for Israel. Then the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD, and served the Baals;

You need stories of answered prayer to tell your children!

(Mat 11:12 NIV) From the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven has been forcefully advancing, and forceful men lay hold of it.

Jesus said to Pray with Audacity, Determination and Persistence!