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### **His House**

Daniel 10:12 Then he said, "Don't be afraid, Daniel. Since the first day you began to pray for understanding and to humble yourself before your God, your request has been heard in heaven. I have come in answer to your prayer.

2 Chron 7:14 Then if my people who are called by my name will hamble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sins and restore their land. 15 My eyes will be open and my ears attentive to every prayer made in this place.



Ter 33:3 Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know.'

His House is produced by New Creation Christian Church (N3C). Publication corresponds with each season—Summer, Autumn, Winter, Spring.

Items and articles will be considered for publication that are sent to peterardisia@gmail.com in a copy and paste format.

Prayer Co-ordinator—Peter Kuskie

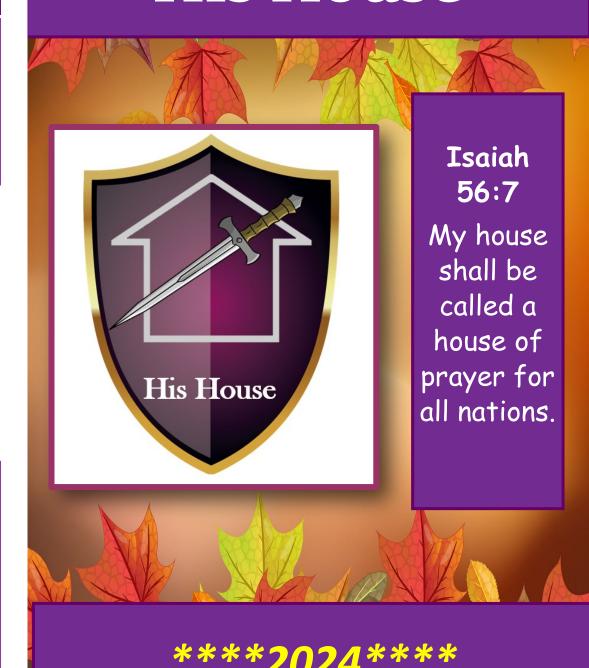
Prayer Chain-Roslyn King

Prayer Walk-Merril Kuskie

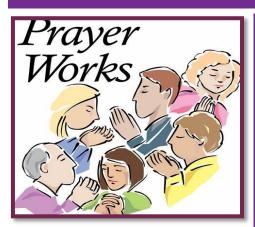
Prayer Meetings—Peter & Merril Kuskie,
Ps David Mareko



# His House



### **HIS HOUSE**



Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

1 Thess. 5:16-18

yourselves Devote prayer, being watchful and thankful.

Colossians 4:2

Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in pray-

**Romans 12:12** 

The Lord is near to all who call on him,to all who call on him in truth.

Psalm 145:18

Matthew 18:20

For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.

PRAYER

(Cont from Pg 14)

This rarely happens now. As I am nourished by the truth, and come into sweet communion with God, I speak to my Father and Friend (vile though I am, and unworthy of it) about the things He brings before me in His precious Word. It astonishes me that I didn't discover this point sooner. I never saw it in a book. No other ministry ever talked about this to me. No private discussions with a brother uncovered it. And yet now, since God has taught me this point, it's as plain to me as anything, that the first thing the child of God has to do every morning is to obtain food for It's much easier to concentrate on prayer without his inner man.

Our Daily Bread

Just as the outward man can't work without food. and food is one of the first things he needs, so it is with the inner man. Now, what is food for the inner man? Not prayer, but the Word of God. And not just the simple reading of the Word of God that's like water running through a pipe. We need to consider what we read, pondering it, and apply it to our hearts.

Praying for any length of time requires a degree

of strength and godly desire, and a time set

The best time for prayer is after the inner man has been nourished by meditation on the Word of God. Our Father has been speaking to us, encouraging us, comforting us, instructing us, humbling us, and reproving us. Even if we are spiritually weak, we can meditate. In fact, the weaker we are, the more we need meditation to strengthen our inner man.

having your mind wander if you meditate on the Scriptures first. I emphasize this point so strongly because of the immense spiritual profit and refreshment I have received from it myself, and I affectionately and solemnly urge my fellow believers to consider this. I believe God has blessed these times that have given me the strength and peace to pass through the greatest trials I've ever known. Having practiced this method for fourteen years, I can most fully, in the fear of God, recommend it.

What a tremendous difference it makes to start each day with your spirit happy and refreshed in the Lord rather than facing it without spiritual



**Reach** people for Jesus

Restore the broken and wounded Release people's God-given gifts by serving Him

Reproduce the life of Christ as an example for others, and raise others up to His calling



N<sub>3</sub>C

love God

love Life

love People

### Making the Most of Your Devotions

#### **George Mueller**

#### Introduction

If you are a Christian, your personal relationship with Jesus must take first priority in your life. But for many reasons, that daily quiet time with God may be the first thing to dissolve under time pressures, stress, and busy schedules. Of course we sometimes find ourselves in situations that require us to "pray as we go," but that should not be the norm for any believer. Every day each of us needs to stop, turn off the world, and talk to God - and give Him time to talk to us!

confess sin to God or to thank Him or to pray for the needs of others or to pray for my own needs. So, although I didn't start off praying, my meditation always led me into prayer.

After I have paused and poured out my heart in prayer, I go on to the next words or verse, turning all of it into prayer for myself or others - however the Word may lead - but still continually keeping in mind that food for my own soul is the first purpose of my meditation. The result of this is that

The following article will be very helpful for you if you've had struggles in this area. George Mueller gives some practical guidelines to help us come into the presence of God on a daily basis. How can we hope to know God's heart and receive His instructions for our lives unless we give Him our undivided attention and ample opportunity to speak? Our prayer is that this article will be a great the special things He gives me in the morning become

It has pleased the Lord to teach me a truth that I really didn't have anything to do with. Although more than fourteen years have passed since I first wrote this, I haven't lost any of the benefits of this lesson.

#### The First Meal Of The Day

The Lord taught me that the first business I needed to attend to every day was to have my spirit happy in the Lord. My first concern shouldn't be thinking of ways to serve and glorify the Lord, but rather, how to get my spirit into a happy state, and how to nourish my inner man. Trying to speak truth to unbelievers or minister to Christians or relieve the distressed or behave in other ways as a child of God may be done in a wrong spirit if I'm not first happy in the Lord - being nourished and strengthened in my inner man day by day.

For at least ten years before I understood this, my practice had been to give myself to prayer as soon as I was dressed in the morning. But later, I saw that the most important thing to do was to read the Word of God and meditate on it. In this way my heart could be comforted, encouraged, warned, reproved, and instructed. And this meditation time on the Word of God was the door through which I entered into rich communion with the Lord.

#### One Bite At A Time

Starting at the beginning of the New Testament I began to meditate early in the morning. After asking the Lord's blessing on His precious Word, I began to think upon what I was reading, searching to get

Blessing out of every verse; not for the sake of teaching someone else, not for a new message to preach, but to obtain food for my own spirit. The result has almost always been that, after a very few minutes, I've been led to confess sin to God or to thank Him or to pray for the needs of others or to pray for my own needs. So, although I didn't start off praying, my meditation always led me into prayer.

After I have paused and poured out my heart in prayer, I go on to the next words or verse, turning all of it into prayer for myself or others - however the Word may lead - but still continually keeping in mind that food for my own soul is the first purpose of my meditation. The result of this is that there is always a good deal of confession, thanksgiving, supplication, or intercession mingled with my meditation, and that my inner man is almost always noticeably nourished and strengthened, and that by breakfast time, with rare exceptions, I'm in a peaceful if not happy state of heart.

What the Lord shows me sooner or later in the day, is that the special things He gives me in the morning become food for other believers, even though it wasn't for their sake that I meditated, but for the strengthening of my own inner man

#### Digesting The Word

I like to take my Bible and meditate outside, taking an hour or two before breakfast, walking through the fields, or sitting on the steps if I find it too difficult to walk the whole time. It's good exercise. I used to consider the time spent walking a loss, but now I find it very profitable, not only to my body, but also to my spirit. Walking outside before breakfast is, of course, not necessarily connected to morning devotions, and everyone should do what's best for them.

The real difference, then, between my former practice and my present one is this: I used to pray as soon as possible, and spent almost all my time until breakfast in prayer. I usually began with prayer, except when I felt my spirit to be more barren than usual, in which case I read the Word of God. But what was the result? I often spent a quarter of an hour to an hour on my knees before being conscious of getting any comfort, encouragement, humbling of soul, etc.; and often, I would struggle with my mind wandering for the first ten to thirty minutes before I was able to break through in prayer.

(Cont. Pg 15)

### It is You I Pursue—Peter Kuskie

How is the prayer going? For me it is like two steps forward and one backwards. But I know I am growing in grace.

Prayer sure is a learning curve. Yet I doubt there is no more worthwhile pursuit. If prayer was easy everyone would be doing it. Yet as someone said "God is not to be had by the casual observer." He encourages us to seek Him with all our hearts.

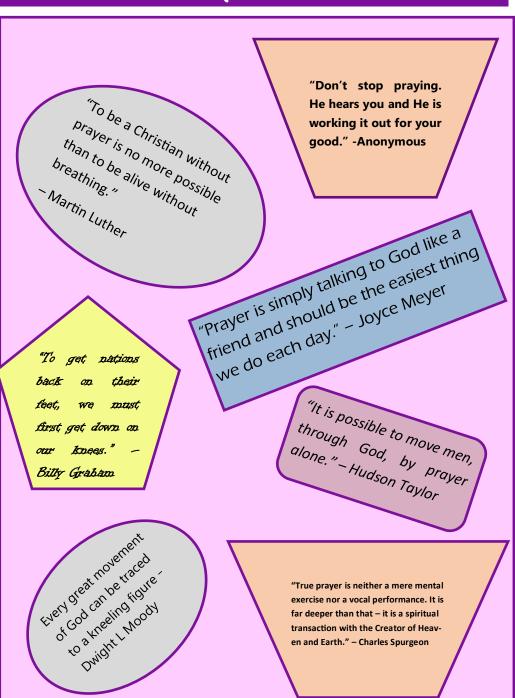
For me it is a great way of determining what I really want. I have learned that if I say I want Him more than anything else, I need to be willing to cast off what holds me back.

He is a worthwhile pursuit. I so appreciate He is drawing me. I don't know where the road leads but I trust the one I pursue.



# **Prayer Calender**

Prayer Points		
Date	Prayer Point	
1	Salvations	
2	Board	
3	Revival - Personal	
4	Pastors	
5	Finances - Personal & Church	
6	Kids Church	
7	Menzone	
8	Ladies Ministries	
9	Outreaches - Hands & Creative	_
10	Leaders & All in authority	_
11	Labourers into the harvest	
13	Services	
14	Revival - Church	
15	Outreach - Meals	
16	Relationships	
17	Direction for church	
19	ACC	
20	Missions •	
	•	
22	Country - Religious freedom	
23	Families	
24	Youth group & Leader	
25	Emergency Services	
26	Community	
		_
28	Country - Education	_
29	Revival - Church	
30	Praying people	
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29	Date Prayer Point  1 Salvations 2 Board 3 Revival - Personal 4 Pastors 5 Finances - Personal & Church 6 Kids Church 7 Menzone 8 Ladies Ministries 9 Outreaches - Hands & Creative 10 Leaders & All in authority 11 Labourers into the harvest 12 Peace of Jeruselem 13 Services 14 Revival - Church 15 Outreach - Meals 16 Relationships 17 Direction for church 18 Lord's prayer 19 ACC 20 Missions 21 Pantry 22 Country - Religious freedom 23 Families 24 Youth group & Leader 25 Emergency Services 26 Community 27 Volunteers 28 Country - Education 29 Revival - Church



When the devil contests a believer on seemingly righteous grounds you can count on it that there's a trap in the system somewhere. Truth starts to surface. The God of all glory is also the God of all grace.

We need to learn how to handle our biggest obstacle to effective prayer: guilt - the sense of having failed and thereby being disqualified for bold approach

Any correct teaching of God's infinite mercy has a way of sounding to the presumptuous like a license for sin. But we don't enter God's presence by presenting an admission card certifying our sinlessness. Nor does one stamp into the throne room with muddy feet and a glib, "Sorry about that."

A proper balance of humility and boldness is needed. Sin, by whatever description, cannot be skirted. Neither should sin be honored by allowing it to inhibit our praying.

Here's how to handle the problem:

First, understand God's posture. He's on the side of sinners. Jesus' critics puzzled that He was so frequently in the company of people who lacked religious pedigree and moral status: "This man companies with publicans and sinners!" The amazing thing was not only that He was willing to move among the sinful, but that He affected them and not the other way around. God never condemns sinners, and He never condones sin. "My little children," John begins, "I am writing these things to you that you sin not." (1 John 2:1). The message registers, and could produce a guilt feeling just by casual reading...except for the next sentence:

"But if any man sin, we have one pleading our case before the Father - Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. He is our sin-covering." (vs.1-2). In other words, th Word of God says: "Absolutely, do not sin," then turns right around and says, "But when you do..." Although the heavenly Father does not hold a casual attitude toward sin, He is not shocked by it either. He has made provision for it, not as an invitation to sin, but to receive His freedom from its guilt.

Second, we make a serious mistake if we think God's mercy is the result of some "smile-and-forget-it" bent in His nature. Humanistic theology features the Father as a somewhat doddering, near senile, harmless old man who forgives because He couldn't do much else in His defense anyway. Or it says that God forgives whenever He is asked "simply because it's right and He ought to." It's a part of a gentlement's agreement: We'll forgive God for letting the world go on in the generally messed-up condition it is. If He will be fair about it and forgive us for those times we've contributed to the mess.

Most people never express such ideas or, for that matter, bother to discover what they do think about forgiveness. But to experience the full peace of forgiveness we must understand the key to its power. God's forgiveness is available and adequate because it cost an infinite price: the blood of Jesus.

Blood is the only price adequate to cover payment for sin. (Heb. 9:22)

Jesus knew and announced that His death on the cross was that instrument of payment. (Matt. 26:28)

It was the Father's plan and the Son's agreement to this redeeming event that produced Calvary. (Acts 2:23; Matt. 26:39)

This message was foretold by the Old Testament prophets and confirmed by the preaching of the New Testament apostles. (Is. 53:4-6; Jn. 1:29; 1 Cor. 15:3, 1 Pet. 1:18,19)

Both justification (acquittal for our sins) in the present and eternal blessing in the future are granted through the blood. (Rom. 5:9)

Therefore, peace of mind and a clear conscience before God are available through the blood. (Eph. 2:13,14; Heb. 9:14)

Forgiveness is abundant, but it isn't the splash of a supermarket display. It's the overflow of the cornucopia of His love designed to prompt our praise and thanksgiving ... and our bold approach to His throne, even when we have sinned.

That's the third point

Handling dirty linen in the throne room is not accomplished by attempting to hide it, but by openly spreading it before God. That's what confession means acknowledging exactly what we know to be so.

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 Jn. 1:9)

"Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need. " (Heb. 4:16)

"In time of need." That's the rime we are most encouraged to come. But when need arises - and is compounded by our own sense of sin and failure - that is the time we're least inclined to come boldly. But it's the time we're most invited!

Has your desire to pray been blocked by a sense of guilt

Be done with that blockade!

Let the truth about the blood of Jesus, the truth about the Father's mercy, set you free!

I can come and be cleansed by the miracle of His creative working through the blood:

"Purge me... and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Create in me a clean heart, 0 God; and renew a right spirit within me." (Ps.51:7,10)

Welcome to the throne room of heaven, sinner.

Last Days Ministries: Finding God When You've Failed

#### His House #1-2024

## **Corporate Intercessory Prayer**

Intercession is energised and directed by the Holy Spirit for others.

During my time in YWAM 2001 and 2003 it was shown to me the importance of having one heart and one mind whilst interceding in a group. I was at the Richmond Viginia USA base; at that time, it was the only base that outreached the Hebrew people of Israel. The 2002/2003 outreach was to be led by me.

A few days before departure we have a daily group intercession prayer meeting, beginning with praise and worship, then make sure our hearts are clean before God by giving the Holy Spirit time to convict us of any unconfessed sin; then deal aggressively with the enemy in the powerful name of Jesus; die to our own agendas, and then wait on the Lord for approximately half an hour in complete silence to hear His voice, scripture or visions He may give us.



During one of these mornings a vision of Turkey was given, and a vision of a Swiss Chalet! Hello Lord, you know our budget!!

However, we prayed for conformation and had peace about both of these visions being part of our outreach. Try as I may I could not find a cheap passage from Israel to Turkey, and certainly not from America! As for the Swiss Chalet we had no idea! Therefore, I threw my hands up and said to the Lord that He would have to deal with it when we arrived in Israel.

On arrival in Israel, we introduced ourselves to another YWAM base whose outreach was to the Moslems. It was just a courtesy call from us to let them know we were in the country. They asked our plans and then told us they were going to Turkey to do the 7 churches, and did we want to come along also!! Finances worked out well, so off we went. Amazing Lord. One down another to go! It was a very rushed trip doing 7 churches in 4 days. As we approached our last Hotel for the night before leaving next day, there it was lit up like a Christmas tree, our accommodation in the shape of a Swiss Chalet!! During this night two of our male team members were able to bring one of the waiters to the Lord. Apparently, He was searching. Who knows how many Moslem lives were changed by that one salvation!

**Roslyn King** 

I and other members of the family, pray each day for our families

I pray for salvation and that God will protect them and visit them in the night and during the day. I pray they all have favour and grow to be successful in their chosen careers..

We also pray Psalm 91 over them each day.

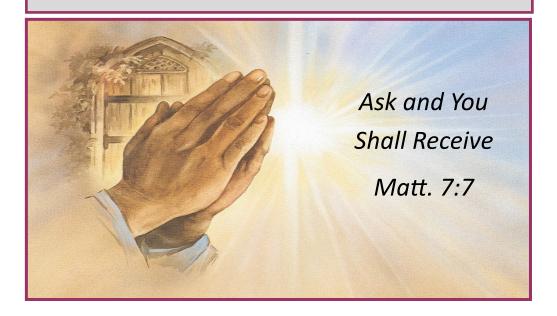
One of my grandchildren ate something that he was allergic to without him knowing ahead of time that he was allergic He had to be taken to the hospital as he was convulsing.

He was hooked up to monitors, his father and mother were on each side of the bed. They were praying and crying. He flatlined and the nurses had to sound alarms. One nurse ran out to get tubes to put air into his lungs. Before they could put the tubes in, breath just came into his lungs and he started to breath on his own. All convulsions were gone.

We thank the Holy Spirit for breathing air into his lungs, he recovered quickly after that and was allowed to leave the hospital by that afternoon. We give honour and thankfulness to the Lord for letting the parents see a miracle.

If God puts all our prayers in a bottle because they are precious in his sight, how much also will He keep in mind our prayers, they are like incense to him. Our job is to trust and obey and to keep praying and not give up.

Vivienne Cooper



His House #1-2024

(Cont. from Pg 10)

Faith in collective prayer is encouraged. Throughout the Old Testament, collective prayer is demonstrated — in some cases, even national prayer is depicted. In scripture, God lays out specific guidelines for the Passover for the nation of Israel and the Ark of the Covenant.

In James 5, Christians are encouraged to pray with and for each other in times of sickness and suffering. Scriptures about the power of prayer

The Holy Bible has numerous scriptures and stories about the power of prayer and how it works in people's lives.

Hannah's powerful prayer in 1 Samuel is a good example of how this power works. Hannah was married to Elkanah, who loved her deeply. However, Hannah was barren.

In her story, her deep longing for a child drove her to despair. She cried out to God in prayer to bless her, and He did.

The birth of the prophet Samuel made Hannah sing a beautiful song of praise in response to the answered prayer. Her story demonstrates the Lord God's omnipotence and how He does hear us when we pray — and He loves us.

Why is it necessary to be righteous?

God hears our prayer requests, and God answers them, too. He is a holy God and wants us to strive to be like

In Matthew 5:48, Jesus explicitly asks us to be perfect like the Heavenly Father is perfect.

Prayer can help us have the strength and power to be righteous. Through righteousness and the grace of God, we are able to use the power of prayer in every aspect of our lives.

God asks us to abide in Him through our Bible and prayer life, and we can ask Him for anything that is good. If we don't abide by God's word and follow His precepts, then we are powerless.

"The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective" (James 5:16).

## Finding God When You've Failed

#### Jack Havford

Honesty is indeed a prerequisite to effective prayer. But it can also be cleverly guided on a boomerang path by our arch opponent.

"How can I pray when I know I've failed God?" I may ask myself. The awareness of recent sin or even a remote memory can haunt the mind and cripple all confidence in prayer. Further, I will never feel guilt but that Satan, whom God's Word labels as the accuser as well as the adversary, will hound my mind with added evidence of my unworthiness and, therefore, of my hopelessness if I do pray. "You've botched it up so badly, how can you seriously expect a hearing from God? You don't deserve anything. You know it, and He knows it! Forget it!"

Some of us will even press beyond that lying attack to the point of praying something, somehow, but the words - when the mind is bombarded by guilt and condemnation - have a way of falling to the floor. Absent is that sense of the creative power when we speak boldly in simple trust to the God of all the heavens. We feel instead like someone who seeks an audience with the head of state of a nation whose flag we have just trampled.

Fat chance of a favor! Thin hope of a hearing! The devil's right. Forget it. But wait a minute.

Think clearly for a moment. What suddenly changed Satan's nature that he would defend God's glory by urging you to keep your dirty distance?

Nothin

He's consistently opposed to my union and yours with the Father.

(Cont. Pg 12)



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### The Power of Prayer-pray.com

- In Mark 11:2, Jesus tells His followers: "So I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours."
- There's immense power in the prayer of a righteous Christian.
- The knowledge that there is power in prayer is not new. Many of the greatest stalwarts in the Bible turned to prayer constantly because they understood what it could do for them
- Today, thousands of people see miracles in their lives by tapping into this very same power in prayer. And this power of God is available to you.
- Let's look at what this power is, why it works, and how to tap into it.
- What is the power of prayer?
- There are many times we feel powerless in our lives, especially in the face of difficult circumstances. By ourselves, we can do nothing.
- The scriptures confirm this. In John 15:5, Jesus says, "Apart from me you can do nothing."
- We recognize the need for God's power. This is the same power by which God created the heavens and the Earth. It's the same power that parted the sea for Moses and that Jesus used to heal the sick and cast out demons.
- It was that power that raised Christ from the dead and brought a baptism of fire on the first Christians.
- All these miracles happened through the power of prayer. Moses prayed before Yahweh.

  Jesus prayed to the Father for miracles. The early Christians prayed together in the Upper Room.
- Whether it was Daniel in the lion's den or Elijah before the false prophets, prayer constantly served the important figures of the Bible.

  And we can harness that same power in our lives today.
- God gives us this power through His Holy Spirit. Paul tells the Ephesians in 1:18-19: "I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know Him ... and what is the immeasurable greatness of

- His power for us who believe, according to the working of His great power."
- Our Heavenly Father gives us this power through
  His son Jesus. There is power in Jesus's
- In John 14:13, Jesus says: "I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son."

#### Why prayer works

- In her book "The Power of Praying Woman,"
  Stormie Omartian says, "We have to put
  our expectations in the Lord and not in
  other things or people."
- Prayer works because God wants our complete dependence on Him. He wants us to recognize that without Him, we can't transcend our limitations.
- God is the source of our fulfillment. He is and wants us to make Him the answer to our longings. Prayer draws us into a deep relationship with God.
- Our prayer life brings us closer to Him through honest communication, just as any child does with their parents.

#### What does it achieve?

- Prayer changes us first. In our busy lives, too often, we don't pray enough. Or we pray for our most pressing needs and treat God as a genie.
- Deep, intimate prayer draws us close to the heart of God. It helps us become more like Him. Prayer lets us hear the Father's voice and direction. It inspires us and gives us answers. It reveals our flaws and perfects us. It is an avenue by which we can repent and be forgiven for our sins.
- As we share our deepest longings with God, we change and become the people God wants us to be.

#### Collective prayer

- Jesus Christ Himself teaches us the power of collective prayer.
- In Matthew 18:19, Jesus says: "If two of you agree on Earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven."
- He even gives the template of the "Our Father," or "The Lord's Prayer," to show us how we must pray. (cont. Pg 11)

# **Prayer Meetings**



Monday 6-7am (post service and needs) Wednesday

7-8pm (prayer, praise and presence) @N3C
Sunday

9-9.30 am (pre-service) @N3C.

Contact Ps John for more details

### **Prayer Chain**

Have a prayer need? We are committed to seeing God work on your behalf.

Contact Rosslyn King for more details. (0433 094 771, rosslyn2a1king@gmail.com)

# **Prayer Walk**

One Street per Month Distribution and Prayer

Distributors of brochures in letterboxes needed.

Contact Merril Kuskie for more details. (0433 033 622, merrilardisia@gmail.com)

B His House #1-2024 9 His House #1-2024





### The Priority of Prayer-Ps Doug

#### The Priority of Prayer

#### Matt. 14:23

And after He had sent the crowds away, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray ...."

Though Jesus was God, He became a man to provide salvation for humanity. Foundational to the success of His redemptive ministry, was the priority He gave to prayer. There are at least 25 references in the Gospels to Jesus engaging in prayer.

#### Some notable instances.

Luke 4:21-22. His baptism and while He was praying, the Holy Spirit descended like a dove. Mk 1:34-38. Following an evening of healing, Jesus rose early to pray then left Capernaum and travelled throughout Galilee and Judea preaching and teaching. Luke 6:12-16. Jesus prayed all night before He chose His 12 disciples.

Jesus prayed during His temptation in the wilderness; He was praying when He was transfigured on the mountain; He prayed at Lazarus' resurrection that people would recognise He was the Messiah; He prayed for Peter that his faith would not fail; He strengthened Himself by prayer in Gethsemane; His first and last words on the cross were prayers to the Father.

Jesus made prayer a priority. In Lu. 5:16 we read, "But Jesus Himself would often slip away to the wilderness to pray." He was not haphazard but very disciplined in His life of prayer. It is my opinion His life and ministry were guided by prayer. Hear what He said in John 5:19-20.

Truly truly, I say to you, "the Son can do nothing of Himself, unless it is something He sees the Father doing; for whatever the Father does, these things the Son also does in like manner. For the Father loves the Son and shows Him all things that He Himself is doing." (Take time and read the prophecy of Messiah in Isa. 50:4-8 to shed light of what Jesus said.). Again in v.30 Jesus said, "I can do nothing on My own initiative ...... because I do not seek my own will but the will of Him who sent Me."

In saying this, Jesus was not denying His deity, He was affirming His ministry as the Man Christ Jesus. Redemption must be accomplished by a man. Paul wrote, "For if by the transgression of the one the many died, much more did the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abound to the many." (Rom. 5:15) Don't neglect the definite article, "the."

#### A Example to follow...

Jesus met with His disciples in the evening of His resurrection. He said "As the Father has sent Me I also send you." (Jn. 20:21). Peter understood this writing in his first epistle, "For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps."

The life and ministry of the early Apostles is bathed in prayer. "These all with one mind were continually devoting themselves to prayer." Prayer prepared them for the Pentecostal outpouring. Prayer was their response to persecution Acts 4:24-31. When division threatened the Church, Acts 6, the Apostles chose deacons to counter that while they gave themselves to "Prayer and the ministry of the word. Prayer paved the way for Peter's release from prison, Acts 12. Prayer preceded the first Missionary movement in the fledgling Church. The New Testament is bathed in prayer. Everyone is not called to the role of a Pastor, but everyone is called to pray. Be people of prayer.