



RCC Phoenix – 3.20.22 – Armor of God (Week 9)

Pray

It was custom for armies in Greece to offer _____ to their _____ for success before they engaged in battle. The Apostle Paul uses this as a reference for Believers in Jesus to depend on the Captain of their salvation, and pray constantly.

Ephesians 6:18 NLT

“Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere.”

1. Pray in the _____

The Greek word used for “pray in” has several different definitions: It can mean “by means of,” “with the help of,” “in the sphere of,” and “in connection to.”

Therefore, “Praying in the Spirit” is prayer that is _____ by & with the _____ of the Holy Spirit.

The Pulpit Commentaries

“...true prayer is spiritual, and it is not true prayer unless by the Holy Spirit the heart is filled with heavenward longings and aspirations, changing our prayer from cold form to heartfelt realities. The ordinary habit of the soul should be prayerful, realizing the presence of God and looking for his grace and guidance. And watching thereunto; that is, "towards" spirituality, against formality, as also against forgetfulness and neglect of prayer.”

Praying in the Spirit also implies praying with the Spirit engaged and not just the mind.

Prayer should not be crusty, stale, _____, rigid or _____. It should be a life-giving exercise as we are conversing with and experiencing the presence of the ALMIGHTY GOD!

2. Pray at _____ Times & on _____ Occasion

Adam Clarke Biblical Commentary

“At All Times – Refers to the different kinds of prayer that is performed in public, in the family, in the closet, in business, on the way, in the heart without a voice, and with the voice from the heart. All those are necessary to the genuine Christian; and he whose heart is right with God will be frequent in the whole.”

Prayer can and should take place _____.

We must be ready for public, _____, mental & _____ prayer.

_____ implies prayer continued in, strong and incessant pleadings, until the evil is averted, or the good is communicated.

3. Pray _____ for Other _____

Luke 18:1-8 NLT

'One day Jesus told his disciples a story to show that they should always pray and never give up. "There was a judge in a certain city," he said, "who neither feared God nor cared about people. A widow of that city came to him repeatedly, saying, 'Give me justice in this dispute with my enemy.' The judge ignored her for a while, but finally he said to himself, 'I don't fear God or care about people, but this woman is driving me crazy. I'm going to see that she gets justice, because she is wearing me out with her constant requests!'" Then the Lord said, "Learn a lesson from this unjust judge. Even he rendered a just decision in the end. So don't you think God will surely give justice to his chosen people who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? I tell you, he will grant justice to them quickly! But when the Son of Man returns, how many will he find on the earth who have faith?"

Coffman's Commentaries on the Bible

"...through times of discouragement or defeat when it seems that all is lost, when victory has smiled or when it has failed let nothing hinder the prayer life."

4. Pray for _____

Ephesians 6:19 NLT

And pray for me, too. Ask God to give me the right words so I can boldly explain God's mysterious plan that the Good News is for the Jews and Gentiles alike. I am in chains now, still preaching the message as God's Ambassador. So pray, that I will keep on speaking boldly for him, as I should.

5. _____ Should we pray?

Matthew 6:5-8 NLT

“When you pray, don’t be like the hypocrites who love to pray publicly on street corners and in the synagogues where everyone can see them. I tell you the truth, that is all the reward they will ever get. But when you pray, go away by yourself, shut the door behind you, and pray to your Father in private. Then your Father, who sees everything, will reward you. “When you pray, don’t babble on and on as the Gentiles do. They think their prayers are answered merely by repeating their words again and again. Don’t be like them, for your Father knows exactly what you need even before you ask him!”

Insights:

- There is _____ secret _____ to how we should pray.
- We don’t have to pray for every single _____ every single _____ we pray.
- There is no specific _____ of _____ prayer should last.
- However, we should pray _____ & _____.

Avoid:

- Praying with the _____ of looking good to others.
- Praying with _____ intentions.
- _____ the same words over and over.

Matthew 6:9-13 NLT (*The Lord’s Prayer*)

“Pray like this: Our Father in heaven, may your name be kept holy. May your Kingdom come soon. May your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us today the food we need, and forgive us our sins, as we have forgiven those who sin against us. And don’t let us yield to temptation, but rescue us from the evil one.”

Include:

- _____ God is Our Father and is _____ All
- Pray that God’s _____ & _____ will be achieved above all else.
- Ask God to continue providing for our needs
- Ask God to _____ us and grant us the ability to give the same level of _____ to others (Make us like Him)
- Ask God for strength to _____ sinful temptation & _____ us from the Enemy.

Additional Elements to Consider Adding to Our Personal Prayer Time:

- Music
- Scripture Reading
- Silence
- No Phones / Notifications