

God is present in glorious power to a prayerful church

Prayer life is the most fragrant life of a Christian. God shapes the church by power. A prayer conditioned church affirms the position that God is in control instead of being anxious in everything. The story of every great Christian achievement is the history of answered prayer. When once asked what his plans for the following day were, Martin Luther answered, "work, work, from early until late. In fact, I have so much to do that I shall spend the first three hours in prayer." The habit of prayer is unfettered for those in constant fellowship with heavenly Father.

- **A prayerful church lives in an intensive act of relying on God despite unfavored circumstances.** When Peter and John went back and reported the community of Christian faith regarding the threats from the religious authority, they raised their voices together in prayer to God (Acts 4: 23-30). It became the spiritual habit of the early churches as recorded in Acts of the Apostles. We find the awesome results with prayer. The place they were meeting was shaken and they all were filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly (4:31).
- **A prayerful church becomes more sensitive to God's voice and direction.** The church at Antioch was continuous in an act of worshipping the Lord and fasting, it resulted in preparing for ministry. Barnabas and Saul were set apart for the glorious ministry of the Lord. It's true that the disciplined prayer of a church helps to separate God's people from worldly concerns and better focus on spiritual priorities, values and goals.
- **A prayerful church becomes an overcoming community.** We find James the brother of John was put to death with the sword and Peter was arrested. The church in Jerusalem prayed earnestly for Peter which resulted in a supernatural intervention for a miracle (Acts 12:1-10). G.C. Morgan comments, that force of earnest, halting prayer was mightier than Herod, and mightier than hell.

As a congregation we are entrusted with great responsibility to pray without ceasing. Let us be confident in affirming the fact that prayer makes darkened clouds withdrew and brings every blessing from above. We shall overcome all hurdles in life by faith in Christ that God be ultimately glorified. Let us pray as Elijah prayed, Hear me O Lord hear me, this people may know that you are the Lord and God (1Kings 18:37). It's the will of God that we pray without ceasing.

God bless you.

In His glorious service,

Rev. K. P. Mathew

(Senior Pastor, IPC Hebron, Los Angeles)

PRAYER" AN EVERLASTING WEAPON

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Give thanks to the God in everything you do and get in life. Consider it privilege to be a warrior in God's army. But, with privilege comes responsibility to do a good fight as soldier, a warrior. This is a spiritual war where you cannot see enemy. The only way to be intact as a warrior is by "PRAYER".

Prayer is the weapon and shield to fight the war. A soldier practices every day to use his weapon, makes him fight well. And it is not that, weapon is handed over to a soldier in the war field and asked to fight. You cannot go to God just on the day you are in the trouble and forget to thank God for good deeds in your life. Praying is not compelling God to fulfill your demands. It is a privilege to have Jesus as a friend to talk and specially listen, who guides our foot steps to right path.

Paul the Apostle tell the Thessalonian church to pray without ceasing. It does not mean to keep yourself away from the people around you and keep begging to God to fulfill your desires. We see from the life of Daniel, he prayed 3 times a day, God showed him the way in his dreams and gave him honor in people.

King David, known as man after God's own heart. Even though he was a king, he faced many temptations and saw valley and hill in his life. But he gave all the glory and honor only to God and prayed for any of the battles of his life and cover him under God's shelter. We can see from the life of Hannah than even in her sorrow, she did not stop praying to Lord.

Be a living word of God in this world, be a part taker in their needs, sorrow and share God's unending love and Joy with them. When we give all our worries in tough time, praise and worship in good times to God in prayer we see HIS desires fulfilled in our life and around us.

Jesus Teaches About Prayer

For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened. Luke 11:10 (NIV)
The puzzle is based on Luke 11:1-9 (NIV).



P R A Y Y B S L E F X E B P H
 U K I N G D O M L T S P D Q A
 A Y Z A U B Q Q S E E E R X L
 U O R B S B U R W F Z A A E G L
 O Q R K P U J I U R Z D C K O
 O N E O L F N P I P I A Q H W
 T A A P X A A F V I X E M M E
 E M D E D M F T W T F S N U D
 M E C N H R D O H N L F B D W
 P P K K R N E G R E S M Y Y U
 A V N I I Q I C C G R T C D Y
 T N O F U N J C E S I N S A O
 I J C W D K S D G I J V Q I A
 O Q K I F B E K P I V J E L A
 N M M W N M J J P V W E M Y P

FIND SEEK MIDNIGHT SINS	PRAY FATHER DAILY KINGDOM	OPEN NAME TEACH HALLOWED	TEMPATION KNOCK LEAD FORGIVE	FRIEND RECEIVE BREAD ASK
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