

PRAYER MATTERS

1 Thessalonians 5:25, Luke 11:1

- A brief panoramic view of Paul's life.
 - Paul's amazing conversion. Acts 26:9-19
 - Paul's first missions trip miracle. Acts 13:6-12
 - The Ephesians receive the Holy Spirit. Acts 19:1-7
 - Extraordinary miracles. Acts 19:11-12
 - The "midnight" miracle. Acts 20:7-12
 - Paul's resume. Romans 15:17-19
 - Paul's apostolic identity. 1 Corinthians 9:1-2
 - Paul's "unspeakable endorsement." 2 Corinthians 12:1-4
- So, what do you do for a man like this? What do you give him? How can you help such a man? Here is how Paul answers these questions.
 - Pray for us! 1 Thessalonians 5:25
 - "...strive together with me in your prayers for me." Romans 15:30-32
 - "...help us through your prayers." 2 Corinthians 1:8-11
 - "...pray on my behalf." Ephesians 6:18-20
 - "...my deliverance through your prayers and the provision of the Spirit of Jesus Christ." Philippians 1:19
 - "...pray that God will open up to us a door." Colossians 4:2-4
 - Pray of the Word of the Lord to be glorified and for us to be rescued from evil men. 2Thessalonians 3:1-3

Paul's Prayer For Us

Ephesians 1:15-23 NASB

¹⁵ For this reason I too, having heard of the faith in the Lord Jesus which exists among you and your love for all the saints, ¹⁶ do not cease giving thanks for you, while making mention of you in my prayers; ¹⁷ that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him. ¹⁸ I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹ and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe. These are in accordance with the working of the strength of His might ²⁰ which He brought about in Christ, when

He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹ far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. ²² And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church, ²³ which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

Ephesians 3:14-21 NASB

¹⁴ For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, ¹⁵ from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name, ¹⁶ that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man, ¹⁷ so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; and that you, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸ may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹ and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God.

²⁰ Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us, ²¹ to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen.

Philippians 1:9 NASB

⁹ And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in real knowledge and all discernment.

Colossians 1:9-12 NASB

⁹ For this reason also, since the day we heard of it, we have not ceased to pray for you and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, ¹⁰ so that you will walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; ¹¹ strengthened with all power, according to His glorious might, for the attaining of all steadfastness and patience; joyously ¹² giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in Light.

2 Corinthians 13:7-9 NASB

⁷ Now we pray to God that you do no wrong; not that we ourselves may appear approved, but that you may do what is right, even though we may appear unapproved. ⁸ For we can do nothing against the truth, but only for the truth. ⁹ For we rejoice when we ourselves are weak but you are strong; this we also pray for, that you be made complete.

Philemon 4-6 NASB

⁴ I thank my God always, making mention of you in my prayers, ⁵ because I hear of your love and of the faith which you have toward the Lord Jesus and toward

all the saints; ⁶ and I pray that the fellowship of your faith may become effective through the knowledge of every good thing which is in you for Christ's sake.

- “Lord, teach us to pray...” Luke 11:1
 - Note: The emphasis here is on “**To Pray**,” not on how to pray.

Prayer

- Prayer is faith in God, not faith in prayer. *Unknown*
- Prayer is the Spirit speaking truth to Truth. *Phil James Bailey*
- Prayer is asking for rain; faith is carrying the umbrella. *John Mason*
- “Continuing instant in prayer” Romans 12:12. The Greek is a metaphor taken from hunting dogs that never give over the game till they have their prey. *Thomas Brooks*
- Praying: To ask that the laws of the universe be annulled in behalf of a single petitioner confessedly unworthy. *Ambrose Bierce*
- Pray often, for prayer is a shield to the soul, a sacrifice to God, and a scourge to Satan. Prayer will cease a man from sin; or sin will cease a man from prayer. *John Bunyan*
- Real prayer comes not from gritting our teeth, but from falling in love. *Richard Foster*
- Prayer is not conquering God's reluctance, but taking hold of God's willingness. *Phillips Brooks*
- Prayer is a sincere, sensible, affectionate pouring out of the soul to God, through Christ in the strength and assistance of the Spirit, for such things as God has promised. *John Bunyan*
- Prayer is not the least we can do, it is the most. *John Blanchard*
- Prayer honors God, acknowledges His being, exalts His power, adores His provision, secures His aid. *E.M. Bounds*
- Prayer is the pulse of life. *Andrew Murray*
- Prayer is the breath of faith. Prayer meetings are the lungs of the church. *C.H. Spurgeon*
- Prayer is the chief exercise of faith. *John Calvin*
- Most churches don't know that God rules the world by the prayers of His saints. *Andrew Murray*
- The main lesson about prayer is just this: Do it! Do it! Do it! *John Laidlaw*

PRAYER MATTERS

- The greatest thing anyone can do for God and for man is to pray. You can do more than pray after you have prayed, but you cannot do more than pray until you have prayed. *S.D. Gordon*