

Chapter 1 : Continuous Prayer Brings About Change - Charging LIFE

Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Ephesians For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, 16 I do not cease to give.

FGS First Prayer: FGS First Fruit: FGS First Worship: Praise that Lifts the Banner Explores the various facets of worship; i. Discover how doxology stems from a theology of H-i-m-ologyâ€”the Gospel of Jesus Christ. FGS First Principles: Foundational Truths Covers the six foundational principles of the doctrine of Christ, upon which the Christian faith is built, as set forth in Hebrews 6: FGS First Tenth: The Revelation of Tithing A study of the basic principles of stewardship versus ownership. FGS First Love: FGS First Faith: Four Laws of Faith Become more intimately acquainted with the Author of your faithâ€”Jesusâ€”and become familiar with the person, principle, and problem of faith. FGS First Revelation: Revelation of a Difference An explorative study on the importance of revelation versus education, as it pertains to walking with God and hearing the voice of God. FGS First Fear: Laws â€”Bethel Series The Sabbath: An affection for the Word of God 2. An appreciation the house of God 3. An aspiration for suffering persecution for the cause of God. LBS Church Government: Show the House to the House Brings understanding to the God-ordained authority and order in the local church. LBS Church Health: Joints and Marrow Provides a clear insight into the requirements for maintaining a healthy local church. LBS Gives insight into the support elements within the local church. Overcoming the Elder Brother Syndrome Insight into the unconditional love of our heavenly Father as depicted in the biblical account of the prodigal son. Discovering Your Motivational Gift An understanding of the seven motivational gifts, set forth in Romans JJS After the Proof of the Call The biblical standard of evaluation and certification that attests to the character of the minister prior to release into ministry. JJS Equipment for the Called: The Study of the Spirit An in-depth study of the ministry of the Holy Spirit, as it relates to daily living.

Chapter 2 : Continual Prayer and Its Effects

Continual Prayer Those who believe in continual prayer find support for their position in verses like these that clearly tell us to pray continually. God is always with us, and part of abiding in Him is talking with Him all day and every day.

The Bible records many types of prayer and many purposes for prayer. There are prayers for protection, for healing, for unity and for children. There are prayers seeking forgiveness, justice and peace. See more about these many aspects of prayer in our study guide How to Pray. But a major focus throughout the Bible is on prayers of praise. This article looks at examples of prayers of praise that can show us what praise looks like—how to improve the praise section of our prayers in ways that will be pleasing to God. These examples show that praise is not just an empty ritual or an exhibition of shallow emotions. It demonstrates a deep, reverent love for God in heart and mind.

Early prayers of praise The early stories of the Bible are overviews and give more details of what God said than what people said to Him. But here are a few examples of praise before the time of King David: As for the Almighty, we cannot find Him; He is excellent in power, in judgment and abundant justice; He does not oppress. Therefore men fear Him; He shows no partiality to any who are wise of heart. I smile at my enemies, because I rejoice in Your salvation. Many of the 73 psalms that are attributed to David can be categorized both as songs and as prayers, and these public expressions certainly mirror the deep and constant personal contact that David had with his Creator. For You have made him a little lower than the angels, and you have crowned him with glory and honor. For Your mercy reaches unto the heavens, and Your truth unto the clouds. Let Your glory be above all the earth. My soul shall be satisfied as with marrow and fatness, and my mouth shall praise You with joyful lips. Because You have been my help, therefore in the shadow of Your wings I will rejoice. My soul follows close behind You; Your right hand upholds me.

Praise in the Prophets Here are a few examples of prayers of praise by the prophets and one by King Nebuchadnezzar, who was the subject of several prophecies. I will exalt You, I will praise Your name, for You have done wonderful things; Your counsels of old are faithfulness and truth. And He changes the times and the seasons; He removes kings and raises up kings; He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding. He reveals deep and secret things; He knows what is in the darkness, and light dwells with Him. And those who walk in pride He is able to put down. Those who regard worthless idols forsake their own Mercy. But I will sacrifice to You with the voice of thanksgiving; I will pay what I have vowed. Salvation is of the LORD. However, some important or public prayers are recorded in the New Testament as examples for us. Here are a few: For He has regarded the lowly state of His maidservant; for behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed. For He who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is His name. And His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation. He has put down the mighty from their thrones, and exalted the lowly. He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent away empty. He has helped His servant Israel, in remembrance of His mercy, as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed forever.

Chapter 3 : Worship of Prayer

The first known Protestant continuous prayer was the "Hourly Intercession" of the Moravian Brethren in Herrnhut, calendrierdelascience.coming in , the prayer continued 24 hours a day every day uninterrupted for over years.

Continual Blessing By Jacqueline Overpeck Imagine what it would be like to experience continual blessing. That is blessing without interruption or end. Blessing that perpetuates until every area of your life flourishes with strength and well being. Sanctification is freedom from sin to holiness and it is found in the tabernacle. In Exodus, God spoke with Israel about the tabernacle. God instructed his people that the tabernacle was to be filled with the incense of burned lamb. Your life has been sanctified and set apart for continual blessing because of the Lamb. Are you looking for an answer today? You can receive a fresh visitation of the Lord by coming to the tabernacle of communion where Jesus blood was poured out. God will provide answers to your urgent needs and solve your most difficult problems as you enter into the holy place through the blood of the Lamb and continually wait upon Him there. Scripture reveals that continual blessing or multiplied blessing is found in continual surrender: This is the day for you as a Christian to turn your ear towards heaven. Look up and listen. God has given you a victorious spirit, not a spirit of dread. The blood of Jesus is not diluted or watered down. It is thick with suffering. It is red with holiness. You have been saved by His blood and no last day demon from hell can add regret or sorrow to you. God intends for you to flourish in blessing in spite of famine. Through the fellowship of continual prayer continual blessing is received. Precious Lord Jesus, you gave it all for me. I surrender once again to your great love. I receive you into my heart. I will never tire of calling upon your name. Every moment I will daily and continually yield to your hand. The hour is dark for this world. Circumstances prove your coming is near. Your light pierces through the darkness. Hide my life in you. Wash me with your blood. Cleanse my life and forgive all my sins. May I be found faithful. Call me up as your beloved, your bride. All that is within me yearns for you. Thank you for blessing my life with the continual outpouring of your Holy Spirit. Nothing this world offers compares to one moment with you. I worship you, my Lord. May your glory be seen in the earth and in my life today, in Jesus mighty name. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed without the consent of the publisher.

Chapter 4 : Constant Prayer Missionary Baptist Church N Laramie Ave, Chicago, IL - calendrierdelascience.com

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Verses 1â€”5 By the pardon of sin, that is taken away which kept good things from us, and we are restored to the favor of God, who bestows good things on us. Think of the provocation; it was sin, and yet pardoned: God is still forgiving, as we are still sinning and repenting. Christ alone forgives all our sins; it is he alone who heals all our infirmities. And the person who finds his sin cured, has a well-grounded assurance that it is forgiven. When God, by the graces and comforts of his Spirit, recovers his people from their decays, and fills them with new life and joy, which is to them an earnest of eternal life and joy, they may then be said to return to the days of their youth, Job

Verses 6â€”14 Truly God is good to all: He has revealed himself and his grace to them. By his ways we may understand his precepts, the ways he requires us to walk in; and his promises and purposes. He always has been full of compassion. How unlike are those to God, who take every occasion to chide, and never know when to cease! What would become of us, if God should deal so with us? The Scripture says a great deal of the mercy of God, and we all have experienced it. The father pities his children that are weak in knowledge, and teaches them; pities them when they are froward, and bears with them; pities them when they are sick, and comforts them; pities them when they are fallen, and helps them to rise; pities them when they have offended, and, upon their submission, forgives them; pities them when wronged, and rights them: See why he pities. He considers the frailty of our bodies, and the folly of our souls, how little we can do, how little we can bear; in all which his compassion appears. God considers this, and pities him; let him consider it himself. Then shall mercy be preserved to them. Verses 19â€”22 He who made all, rules all, and both by a word of power. He disposes all persons and things to his own glory. There is a world of holy angels who are ever praising him. Let all his works praise him. Such would have been our constant delight, if we had not been fallen creatures. Such it will in a measure become, if we are born of God. Such it will be for ever in heaven; nor can we be perfectly happy till we can take unwearied pleasure in perfect obedience to the will of our God. And let the feeling of each redeemed heart be, Bless the Lord, O my soul.

Chapter 5 : World Wide Study Bible – Psalms - Christian Classics Ethereal Library

So, then, the duty of continual prayer, and the promise, as well as the precept, that its results are to be continual joy and continual thanksgiving, are suggested by these words. I. The duty of continual prayer.

Contact Continuous Prayer Brings About Change Do you desire a change in your life or in that disturbing issue before you? The solution lies in continuous fervent prayer, which always brings about change. So Peter was kept in prison, but fervent prayer for him was persistently made to God by the church assembly – Acts And shall God not avenge His own elect who cry out day and night to Him, though He bears long with them? I tell you that He will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth? They want it all ready-made and delivered to them like Pizza. However, in spiritual things, the mode of operation is different. Everyone needs to work out his salvation with fear and trembling, Philippians 2: And continuous fervent prayer is one of the ways of doing so. Whatever changes you may desire in your life: When you persist, he will let go like he let go of Jesus after tempting Him for a while, Luke 4: No matter how long it may take, remain dogged. He can never withstand a persistent prayer filled with faith. Many people lose their victory at the nick of time just because they quit believing and praying. Jesus says there is salvation for those who endure till the end. Your end may be NOW! Yes, you have been on it for a long time, your change may be now. Joy comes in the morning, and so as long there is breath in your nostril, your morning is coming. Prayer brings about change. The disciples rested a bit and Herod killed James but when he went on to pick Peter for execution too, the disciples said not this time, and they engaged continuous fervent prayer for a change. And indeed their prayers brought about a change. They were still praying when Peter knocked on the door, Acts Also, Elijah kept praying to God to send rain until he saw a sign of it. His servant went seven times before he saw the sign. I believe he would have continued beyond seven if the sign of rain was not seen at the seventh time, 1 Kings Daniel is another example for us in the scriptures. He sought an answered prayer from the Lord for twenty one days before his answer came. He stayed at it until he received his heart desire. Interestingly, the angel said he was coming with the answer from the very first day Daniel started praying but the enemy tried to stop him. Your continuous praying coupled with faith will ensure you receive your change no matter how long it takes. Continued fervency in prayer brings about change. Does God want you to have your change? But how long can you hold on with your prayers? Continuous fervent prayer does bring about change. What is your experience with fervent prayer?

Chapter 6 : 1 Thessalonians Worship Without Ceasing | To God Be The Glory, Forever and Ever, Amen.

Continual Prayer for Revival Posted by Michael Haykin In the last post on the revitalization of the eighteenth-century Baptists, we considered the way in which prayer was a central cause.

Fire and Form of Worship Secrets of the secret place and the life of prayer, part 1. This one is for all of us. We all need to pray. Some of us need to pray more, others need to pray more regularly and others need to make a new start at the whole enterprise. The words of Jesus and Paul challenge us and stir our hearts. Where do we find the Secret Place? How do we even attempt a life built around prayer? These words have challenged believers since Jesus spoke them and Paul wrote them. In this column and the next I want to share principles on the Life of Prayer that I learned while writing my doctoral thesis, *Experiment In Prayer: And, to me, the Sermon on the Mount is the constitution of the Kingdom of God.* Jesus spoke of believers who, when they were sued for a shirt would surrender a cloak as well. They would go two miles when only one was demanded and would turn the other cheek when struck hard in the face. Private prayer, The Secret Place, is the furnace that would forge such lives of steel. This is not the power-mongering prayer of the religious leaders of the day or the market place praying of the hypocrites or the theatrical giving of alms, but this is Secret Place prayer, where no one hears or sees but the Father in Heaven. Paul has the authority to instruct us in the Life of Prayer. He was a man of continual prayer. We see in the book of Acts the various crises of his life. We see him praying in jail at midnight, aboard ship in a storm, and in public ministry with great power and effect. In his letters to the churches we get a glimpse of his private prayer life: His powerful public life sprang from a power private life of prayer. Jesus brought a new era of relationship with God because he brought an understandable revelation of God the Father, a real forgiveness of sin through the cross and a real helper in the Holy Spirit. He said that worship, which includes prayer, would not be in ceremony and tradition alone. These can be performed outwardly with no sincere action of the heart. New Covenant worship, on the other hand, would be done in spirit and in truth. This spirituality is internal before it is external. This is an inner spirituality of integrity, honesty and humility formed by the Word of God, the truth that sets us free, and empowered by the Holy Spirit. This cannot be faked for God Himself is the object and He cannot be fooled. Now, to the first three of the eight secrets I discovered. The Secrets of the Secret Place 1. Get alone with God. The first secret of the Secret Place is to be absolutely alone with the Father. Being alone with God bars any possibility of performance praying. If another person can hear our words, this affects the way we pray. Find a time, a chair, a room, a corner, a couch in your home and let every body know of your time and place, your personal appointment with Abba Father. Most likely your family will be happy to help you pray more! Quiet your spirit before God. Silence is the searchlight of the soul. The voice of the Lord is heard in the human spirit when we quiet our souls. Noise is the enemy of the Secret Place. I avoid music with word associations as background. If I am inwardly singing, I am not being silent. Our culture hates silence and our souls have been shaped in its image. But our spirit was created in the image of God and craves the silence of creation wherein is heard the voice of God. Together, these two secrets imply a schedule, set times of prayer each day. From age to age in the history of worship these times ranged from twice daily to up to seven times a day. The biblical and historical minimum seems to be twice daily: The idea is to frame each day in prayer. My doctoral thesis project attempted this schedule and, predictably, found it almost impossible. Yet, in our busy lives, events that are not scheduled tend not to happen. One of the advantages of attempting morning and evening prayer was the chance to do one if the other was missed. The people in my study group ending up praying more often than when they attempted one prayer time each day. Recite the Word of God Prayer is so much more than asking God for things. Daily private prayer, however, must be learned. It is a spiritual exercise for the inner person, performed in daily obedience to prepare us for the crisis. Praying the Scriptures has a vital role in this strengthening discipline. Many of us hold to traditions formed in the modern age, from the 17th to the 20th centuries and we have not learned to pray the Scriptures. But Jesus and His disciples prayed the Psalms and other passages as a matter of course. Because recited prayers were so terribly abused in the Medieval church, the whole concept was thrown out. Today we need to reclaim this powerful discipline. In the ancient church

the leaders formed an axiom: Great theology right beliefs about God springs from great doxology proper praise of God. Another truth from the ancient church was lectio divina--the prayerful reading of the Scripture in which one hears the voice of God in the spoken words of Scripture. Today we also need to rehearse the revelation in Scripture of who God is and what He has promised. This is not "vain" repetition, but a purposeful rehearsal of truth so that it can go deep enough into us to set us free. The next column will continue this teaching. FF Stephen R. Phifer View orther articles in this series:

Chapter 7 : Prayers of Praise - Life, Hope & Truth

Through the fellowship of continual prayer continual blessing is received. Precious Lord Jesus, you gave it all for me. I surrender once again to your great love.

A Christian has been made alive in Christ while the unregenerate follow the course of this world and the prince of the power of the air and are dead in their trespasses and sins Ephesians 2: A Christian will display the love of the Father to all while the world has no love John A Christian will obey the word of the Father and keep his commandments while the world will not 1 John 2: The world is in a constant state of a rebellion against God, but the Christian has been called to a life of unending worship. From the time we wake up in the morning to the time we go to sleep and even when we are asleep, we are called to praise the Father. We were created to glorify His name, and our entire lives should be centered on worshipping His precious name. Today worship seems to be confined to music. Worship is not just about music but the entire Christian life. Worship also entails rejoicing, praying, and giving thanks to God. In this passage we find Paul exhorting us to do all three. Not only does he tell us to do all three, but also he commands us to do all of them without end. He says to rejoice always, pray without ceasing, and give thanks in all circumstances. The Christian life should be one never-ending state of praise and worship to God through rejoicing, praying, and thanksgiving. Rejoicing, praying, and thanksgiving have a certain type of synergy with each other. They work together and build each other up and are often hard to separate. We see that they heighten the effect and value of each other. Prayer and thanksgiving lead to rejoicing, thanksgiving and rejoicing are types of prayers, and prayer and rejoicing illuminate thanksgiving. The three work together and feed off of each other. The three cover the entirety of the Christian life. We rejoice for present times, pray for future protection, and give thanks for past gifts. This same command is given in Roman Rejoice Always Along with love, peace, and righteousness, joy is one of the earmarks of being a Christian. It is easy to say thank you with a begrudging attitude, but is this a true sense or attitude of thanks? Thanksgiving and prayer without joy are obligations rather than pleasures. This section starts with the exhortation to rejoice always to remind us to have a joyful attitude in everything we do especially our prayer lives and times of thanksgiving. Where does this joy come from? It comes from the Spirit of God. Joy is one of the fruit of the Spirit Galatians 5: People have often called me an optimist or said that I was always in a positive mode. I have always thought of optimists as being slightly ignorant and have seen myself more as a realist, but a realist can be far more optimistic than an optimist when they have seen reality. God sending His son to be the propitiation for my sins because of the great love He has for me is an incredible reality. It is hard not to always be in a state of rejoicing knowing this to be true. Why would we complain about anything when we have already been given this amazing gift and truth? What more could we ask for or desire? It is not always easy to rejoice. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing. Why are we sorrowful or out of rejoicing? Most often it is because of the loss of something, but what have we lost? We may lose a gift from God, but we will never lose God Himself. We are sorrowful because of the loss of possessions or a loved one but this may just reveal to us that we have invested too much into something other than God. It is hard for many to be in a constant state of rejoicing not because they have experienced too much loss but because they have invested too much of themselves into that which they have lost. One can be in a state of sorrow because of great loss yet still rejoice. Rejoicing for a team that always wins is far easier than rejoicing for one that constantly loses. God has already won the war, so we have cause for great rejoicing. Realizing the reason why we rejoice is how we can rejoice always. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls. We are to rejoice even when others are not rejoicing. A few verses before this passage, 1 Thessalonians 5: The condition that other people are in should never hinder our worship, but it does give us the opportunity to help them and increase our worship. No matter how painful the affliction or how bad the situation, the joy of the Christian should preserve. Rejoicing is a Christian practice that seems to have become more rare. We sing praise and worship songs at church but how often do we rejoice in our daily lives? We are so busy trying to do other things that

we do not take time just to praise God. Do we rejoice when we wake up in the morning? Do we rejoice as we work or go to school? Do we rejoice when we lay down at night? Our lack of desire to follow God and uphold His commandments is a direct result of not rejoicing in all that we do. Rejoicing makes us realize the supreme importance of Christ and in so doing awakens our desire to follow him. It does not mean that we have to be on our knees with our hands in a certain position and our eyes closed. He said that he was riding his bike as he thought about this verse. He thought that he had to close his eyes and fold his hands to start praying as he rode his bike. As one can imagine, the situation did not end well. Let me give you a simple definition. Unceasing prayer is communion with God—unceasing communion with God. Prayer should occur throughout our entire day and be so ingrained in our system that we begin to pray without even realizing it. We inhale and exhale the presence of God through prayer, and when we fail to pray, we do not receive the oxygen of His life in our spiritual lives. Prayer sustains us as it connects us with God. In fact, desire is the kernel of prayer. The vocal expressions which we call by the name of prayer are often but its shell—inward desire is the life, the heart, the reality of prayer! Though you cannot always be speaking in prayer, you can always be desiring in prayer. The miser is always desiring riches, though he is not always talking about his gold and silver. Some of our deepest prayers come from within when no words can be expressed. On other occasions when our voices are raised in prayer, our hearts remain silent. It is possible to speak with our lips to God but not be in prayer. There is also no mention for a proper place, posture, or time of prayer. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. The working out of our prayers is a continuation of our prayers. When we begin to work that which we pray for, we have not left a state of prayer but have entered a new stage of it. Many of us do not pray without ceasing because we do not feel that we have great need. Great need brings forth great prayer. Realizing that we are in constant need because we can do absolutely nothing without God will give us both the desire to pray without ceasing and the knowledge that we need to do so. We must also guard against the idea that once we have gained much we no longer need prayer. We are constantly in need. In understanding our condition, we also understand the nature of prayer. When talking about the nature of prayer, I mean to say that prayer is a gift from God. This means that God is constantly listening as we constantly pray. God does not say that He will only listen to prayers at certain times but that He is always listening. Praying with no end implies that there is one that listens to no end. Prayer is found between rejoicing and thanksgiving. We should rejoice more if we prayed more. Prayer is in the center of rejoicing and giving thanks because prayer leads to both. Prayer reminds us of the wonderful things God has done for us, which brings forth a sense of thanksgiving and rejoicing. Many of us will often say a short prayer before we go to bed at night. We may kneel at the side of our bed or silently talk to God as we fall asleep. I once heard a man say that it was disrespectful for us to fall asleep when we pray to God. He said that any other person would be annoyed if you fell asleep when talking to them. I agree with him in part but not in whole. I think the prayer he speaks of is a deep petition of God, but what about just talking with God. I do not mean saying anything elaborate or even asking for anything but just telling God about your day.

Chapter 8 : Everyday Thanks Living | Christian Reformed Church

The key to being in a state of continual prayer is to have a deep knowledge and desire for God's word. There are many times when I will be praying to God, and I will not know what to say. I will reach a point of utter desperation and my prayers seem to fail me.

Related Media A man who worked as a messenger for a photo lab got a message on his beeper instructing him to pick up a package at an unfamiliar company with a long, difficult name. A man nearby witnessed this scene. Do you ever wish that prayer worked like that? But I find prayer to be a much more difficult process. I need all the help I can get on how to pray more effectively. Psalm 86 gives us a helpful lesson on prayer. It is the only psalm in Book 3 of the Psalter labeled as written by David. In many ways, it is not a very original psalm. That has led some to think that David himself did not write it in this form. But it seems to me that David easily could have taken things he had already written and used them in this prayer. And Psalm 86 is the earnest, heartfelt cry of a man of God in a desperate situation laying hold of the God whom he knew well. The psalm is peppered with 15 requests, some of them repetitive, fired at God with a strong sense of urgency. It falls into four sections: Although there are many lessons on prayer in this psalm, which could comprise a sermon series, the main lesson is simple: Our great needs should drive us to pray to the great God, who alone can deliver us. I want to explore four questions: Why should we pray? To whom should we pray? How should we pray? And, what should we pray for? We should pray because we have great needs. David was deeply aware of his great need, which drove him to earnest prayer. It sounds obvious to say that we have great needs that should drive us to prayer. But the truth is, our pride blinds us to how needy we really are, so that we rely on ourselves or on other people or on some godless method to get us out of our troubles. The only thing left is to pray! The main reason that people do not cry out to God to save them from their sins is that they do not see their great need as sinners before the holy God. They see themselves as basically good. But, even once we are saved, we fall into this same trap. We overlook the strong appeal of indwelling sin that lurks within us Gal. We should pray to the only true God, great in power, love, grace, and mercy. This psalm shows that David knew the God to whom he was praying. In this prayer, David basically pits who God is against his enemies and leaves the outcome to God. God is the only true God, great in power. All nations whom You have made shall come and worship before You, O Lord, and they shall glorify Your name. For you are great and do wondrous deeds; You alone are God. He made the nations. He has ordained that they will all come and worship before Him. He is great and does wondrous deeds. The Lord alone is God. The whole world lies in his power 1 John 5: Paul, referring to the demons, says that there are many gods and many lords in heaven and on earth 1 Cor. These demons are spirit-beings, organized under Satan, with great power over individuals and entire nations 2 Thess. But, at the time which God determines, He will bring fire down from heaven to destroy His enemies. Satan and all of the demons will be thrown into the lake of fire, where they will be tormented forever and ever Rev. And even now, before that time, we are assured 1 John 4: Although the forces of darkness are powerful, none of them can compare to God. Because God has willed that all the nations whom He has made will worship Him, we can pray for the lost peoples of the world, knowing that God will bless our missionary efforts. There may be temporary setbacks, as there often have been in church history. But ultimately and finally, God will prevail. We can pray to Him as the only true God, great in power. God is great in love, grace, and mercy. Here is how God disclosed Himself: It is referred to in Numbers If you have never come to God through Jesus and His shed blood to receive forgiveness for your sins, He invites you to come and ask. You will receive His abundant mercy and grace. If, as a Christian, you have failed God by sinning, He invites you to come for forgiveness, mercy, and grace. When David asks God to preserve his soul and adds David sinned often, sometimes in major ways, as you know. It means that David is a loyal follower of the Lord H. Leupold, Exposition of Psalms [Baker], p. David is not being self-righteous, but simply stating the fact that he was committed to the Lord. There is no application to fill out to justify your need. There are no lines to wait in to present your case. Just come to the gracious, loving Father with your needs. He is abundant in lovingkindness to all who call upon Him. So, we should pray because we have great needs. We pray to the God who is great

in power, love, and mercy. We should pray earnestly, continually, thankfully, in humility, and in faith. He knew God intimately and personally. So he felt free to pour out his heart as he does here. It stems from his awareness of his great need. So he cries out from his heart for God to save him from these powerful enemies. Like a starving beggar, he was entreating God to give him food. One is poor, lame, wounded, and almost starving. The other is healthy and robust. They both use the same words in asking for food. But the first man speaks out of his misery and pain, whereas the second more calmly sets forth his need. You will be more inclined to give to the first man, not to the second. Even so, Bunyan says, it is with God. Those who come to Him out of custom and formality, going through the motions of prayer, are less likely to be heard than those who earnestly pray out of the anguish of their souls. Paul tells us 1 Thess. Rather, the word was used of a hacking cough and of repeated military assaults. The idea is, keep coming back to prayer over and over again, all throughout the day. He admits that he is afflicted and needy. He admits his weakness by asking God to grant him strength Kings have an image to maintain. Kings want everyone to think that they know how to solve problems. Even so, prayer is not asking God to give us a little boost. Rather, it is acknowledging to Him and anyone who is listening that our need is total, not partial. David affirms his trust in God He knows that God will answer him His request that God would show him a sign for good Faith is not a matter of closing your eyes to reality and leaping into the dark. Faith does not presume to command God, as many modern, irreverent preachers claim to do. So why should we pray? Because we have great needs. To the only true God, great in power, love, and mercy. Pray earnestly, continually, thankfully, in humility and in faith. What should we pray for?

Chapter 9 : Learning from Jesus™ Jewish Prayer Life | Our Rabbi Jesus

He was a man of continual prayer. He was schooled in Jewish prayer and, when he became a Christian, found a new, more intense and effective form of prayer when he learned to pray in/by the Holy Spirit.

Tommy Lane We pray every day and the importance of prayer is emphasized in the Scriptures today. In the first reading Ex As long as Moses holds up his arms in prayer everything goes well. When Moses no longer holds up his arms in prayer there are problems. I think we can also see Moses holding up his arms in prayer as anticipating Christ holding up his arms in prayer on the Cross winning the battle over evil and sin for us. In the Gospel today Luke The widow in the parable receives her request because she was persistent and we ought to be equally constant in prayer. Jesus uses a metaphor from boxing to make his point about the need to continue in prayer. Be as persistent as a boxer in the ring when it comes to prayer. Jesus gives a second teaching in the parable. If an unjust judge answers the pleas of a widow how much more will God answer our prayers. However God sees the overall plan and knows what is best and we may sometimes have to wait until the next life to see that overall plan and understand that God knew better. Luke demonstrates this when he writes that the Father will give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Luke The important thing is to persevere in prayer. Earlier Jesus told a parable about a man going to his friend in the middle of night to ask for bread and even though at first the friend may not want to get up if he persists his friend will get up and give him the bread Luke The following instances of Jesus in prayer are only in Luke. Jesus was praying after his baptism when the heavens opened Luke 3: After the cure of the leper Jesus withdrew to the wilderness and prayed Luke 5: Jesus spent all night on the hills in prayer before he chose the Twelve Luke 6: Eight days later he took Peter, James and John and went up on the mountain to pray Luke 9: Jesus prayed for Simon that his faith might not fail Luke Only Luke tells us that Jesus prayed for his crucifiers Luke So the disciples in Acts are doing what Jesus the master did in the Gospel. Once again I think we can see this as Luke teaching us. How do we pray? For our meditations and Holy Hours we make good use of Sacred Scripture to aid us in our prayer. Therefore our second reading today reminds us of the importance of Sacred Scripture: All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for refutation, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that one who belongs to God may be competent, equipped for every good work. Prayer was central in the life of Jesus as we see especially in the Gospel of Luke. That centrality of prayer continues in the life of the disciples in Acts. Luke is teaching us that prayer is to be central in our lives because it was central in the life of Jesus. Jesus teaches the Parable of the Persistent Widow about the importance of constant prayer. Tommy Lane This homily was delivered in Mount St.