

Continuing Instant in Prayer

Getting the Word to Work Effectually in You

“Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;” – Eph 6:18

1. Who? What? Where? When? Why? – Basics of Pauline Prayer

- a. Everyone (including you) – Col 4:2, Eph 6:18
- b. Talking with, pleading, humbly asking, and/or thanking God – 1Tim 2:1
- c. Everywhere, in all things – 1Tim 2:8, Rom 12:12, Phi 4:6
- d. Always & alway – Eph 6:18, 1Thes 5:17, 1Thes 3:10, 1Tim 5:5, 2Tim 1:3
- e. Because God wants you to – 1Tim 2:3, 1Thes 5:18

2. How (do we pray today)? – A big question for those finally grasping mid-Acts

- a. It is dispensationally distinct – 1Chr 4:10, Mat 21:22, Mat 6:5-15, John 17, Luke 18:13
- b. Prayer is always in accordance with God’s will... – Rom 8:26-27 (it’s not an excuse!)
- c. ...which we can (and should!) know – Eph 5:17, 1Tim 2:4, 1Thes 4:3 & 7
- d. Paul (Phi 4:9) prays for a lot of people all the time. We learn that he:
 - i. Thanks God for people, their faith, their work, and the joy they bring him
Rom 1:8-9, Eph 1:16, Phi 1:3 & 1:6, 1Thes 1:2-3 & 3:9, 2Tim 1:3, Phm 1:4
 - ii. Desires to be with some people, delivered from others, and prayed for
Rom 1:10 & 15:30-32, 1Thes 3:2 & 3:10 & 5:25, 2Tim 1:3, Phm 1:22
 - iii. Wants to lead a quiet/peaceable life, be filled with joy, and help others
1Tim 2:1, 2Tim 1:4, 1Thes 3:10, Rom 15:31
 - iv. Makes requests that others will be saved, and for all saints to give thanks, give money, do good, not do evil, approve things that are excellent, walk worthy of their calling, stand perfect and complete in the will of God, and be strengthened and comforted with might, patience, and longsuffering with joyfulness
Rom 10:1, 2Cor 1:11, Eph 6:18, Col 1:10-12 & 4:12, 2Cor 9:14 & 13:7, Phi 1:10-11, Phm 1:4, 2Thes 1:11, 1Tim 2:1
 - v. Asks that others have judgment, wisdom, & knowledge of God’s will, hope, riches, power (resurrection), & have love that abounds in it – *Eph 1:16-20, Col 1:9, Phi 1:9*
 - vi. Prays Christ would be preached & magnified, that the word & message would have free course & be glorified, and that mercy would be shown to those that forsook Paul – *Phi 1:19, Col 4:4, 2Thes 1:11 & 3:1, 2Tim 4:16*

3. How (does prayer activate the doctrine inside us)?

- a. Paul says prayer is helpful & brings peace to hearts and minds – 2Cor 1:11, Phi 4:7
- b. That helps us shift our focus from ourselves & the earthly to God and the heavenly
- c. Just as thoughts/feelings are clarified when said to others, so it is w/ doctrine & God
- d. When forced to articulate something, we have to think about what we’re saying
- e. Pray is what we are expected to do with God’s word, and proper prayer spurs us to action by putting the doctrine to work – Eph 6:17-18, Col 4:2-4 & 4:12