

Prayer and the Will of God!

(1 Thessalonians 5:17-18)

Sunday, January 7, 2024

It is the will of God that all His children would have the habit of praying. This truth takes on added significance if we recognize prayer as a dialogue between the Heavenly Father and each of His children instead of it being a monologue in which the child of God does all the speaking. It is more important that we hear what God has to say than God hearing what we have to say.

It has been suggested that while we offer our prayers to God, He directs His prayers to us. We are eager to receive answers to our prayers. The Heavenly Father is even more eager that we respond to His prayers.

Paul's exhortation to the Thessalonians to pray without ceasing is a divine mandate to all believers.

Without ceasing means, "constant!" It defines prayer as a way of life. It means having a continued attitude of prayer. It means being in constant communion with the Father. Christ's followers should be devoted to prayer.

Sunday, January 14, 2024

I. Prayer is a part of the will of God for each of us!

- A. The Bible teaches from beginning to end that God is a prayer-hearing God.

- B. The Bible teaches that the Heavenly Father is eager to bestow His gifts of love and wisdom on us. That's His will for us.
- C. The Bible teaches that God gives only the gifts that are not necessarily good to us, but good for us, because of our Prayers.

Sunday, January 21, 2024

II. Our Prayers are to be in harmony with God's Will!

Our Lord teaches that we can expect blessings from God through prayer if we pray in harmony with God's Will. In (1 John 3:22), John discusses praying in harmony with the will of God. He says, *"And whatever we ask, we receive of Him, because we keep His commands, and do those things that are pleasing in His sight!"* (1 John 5:14-15) says, *"And this is the confidence that we have in Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He heareth us: and if we know that He hears us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of Him."*

Prayer is not intended to be a means whereby people can secure that which they wish for in a selfish way. Prayer is the means whereby we petition divine resources that are necessary for the doing of God's Will.

Sunday, January 28, 2024

III. Praying in the Will of God!

We discover God's Will as we examine His commands and His Promises that are recorded throughout the Bible. We gain insight into His will as we increase our knowledge of the mind of Christ and as we follow the leadership of the Holy Spirit. Paul says in verse 18, *"in*

everything give thanks, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." Being unthankful is the very essence of the unregenerate heart. But when God regenerates an individual, He produces a new heart that longs to obey Paul's injunction here that says, *"in everything give thanks."* That statement allows believers no excuses to be ungrateful. No matter what struggles, trials, tests, or vicissitudes of life, "in everything" refers to giving thanks in all occurrences.

It is spiritually abnormal for Christians to be unthankful. Being unthankful disobeys the many scriptures that lead the believer to a life of gratitude.

But everything goes better with Prayer.....

Prayer is God's ordained way for man to receive things from Him. God moves, acts, and responds to prayer. Prayer is the primary way man is to communicate with God. We should continue and persevere in prayer.

Pray faithfully, regularly, daily, consistently, and unceasingly!