

Living the Level of our Praying Part 2

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I. Introduction.

- A. If we took time to write out our prayers we might learn what our prayers are like.
- B. We ought to think about what we say when we pray because prayer is powerful and words matter.
- C. Text: Ephesians 3.
- D. If we can learn to pray like Paul, all our prayers would be short, to the point and extremely powerful and moving.
- E. We should never be satisfied with the level of our praying.

II. The posture in which Paul prays.

- A. Paul kneeled in his prayers even though the posture of prayers was usually standing. (Mark 11)
- B. Kneeling became a sign of deep reverence for God.
- C. Kneeling before God is an acknowledgement of submissiveness of the heart to God.
- D. We are sometimes too casual in our prayers because we forget whom we are praying to.
- E. God is dominant in every single aspect of life, and we all owe our existence and all we have to Him.

III. Requests.

- A. Be strengthened with power.
 - 1. Christ's riches are inexhaustible.
 - 2. God will bestow us with the supernatural power.
 - 3. We all need supernatural power every day.
 - 4. The result is that Christ might dwell in a person's heart through faith. The life of Christ in a person should be evident to all who see that person.
 - 5. Our prayers for a person need to be specific.
 - 6. The purpose of the armor of God is prayer. (Ephesians 6)
 - 7. We need to find someone to pray for us. If they do not know what to pray for us, we should ask them to pray Ephesians 3.

B. Comprehend the love of Jesus Christ.

1. The believer is rooted in love. That is how he got saved.
2. Love is the soil in which God planted us.
3. People will know that one is a disciple of Jesus by his love.
4. The love of God is beyond comprehension
5. God created us to be lovers by nature. (Romans 8)
6. Only when one understands the love of Christ is he able to accept Christ's love for himself and others. This is the key to intimacy with God.
7. We can emotionally experience the love of Christ when we understand His love.
8. The love of Christ is infinite.

C. Be filled with the fullness of God.

1. The fullness of God means to be filled with His presence, which is His resurrection power. (Philippians 3)
2. It is also the comprehension of the love of God.
3. The goal of our salvation is that we would be full of God.
4. Not being filled with God will affect my actions and emotions continually.
5. Our relationship to Christ is more important than all of our service for God. (Ephesians 4)
6. God had in mind that we would be conformed to the likeness of Christ.
7. Everything is on a higher level when a person is filled with God.

IV. Conclusion.

- A. God is able to do far above whatever we ask Him.
- B. We should not doubt Him.
- C. God is able to do above what we ask according to resurrection power.
- D. The Spirit of God is able to work through us when we are willing.
- E. Glory be to the one who is able to do everything that we ask and beyond.

F. If one can read, he can pray this kind of prayer.

Application questions:

1. What stood out to you about the contents of Paul's prayer? Explain.

2. How would you respond to someone who says that the words of our prayers do not matter?

3. How can you go about improving your prayer life in a practical and provable way? Be specific.
