

Pastor's Pen

Why Pray?

Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

My father was a 2nd LT during WWII and fought the Nazis in France and Germany in 1944-45. The one thing he told me was there was no atheist in foxholes. I heard a story about that very thing. A soldier was in a terrible battle sitting in his foxhole with another soldier when he cried out to God and said if you get me out of this alive, I will devote my whole life to you. When the battle was over, the soldier who heard him pledge asked if he would follow up on his promise to God. He said no, I survived despite him.

The sad reality is that many Christians fall short in their prayer lives. When we don't pray, we are not only missing out on God's blessings, but also we are being disobedient to His commands. However, there is so much more to lose than just being disobedient. We miss the opportunity to speak to the creator of the universe. Do you realize that we are granted access to the very throne of God? The writer of Hebrews tells us, *"For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things like we are, yet without sin. 16 Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need"* (Hebrews 4:15-16).

When the Lord taught His disciples how to pray in Matthew 6, from that example, we are given 5 keys to effective prayer;

1. Who-When we pray, Jesus told us we are to pray to His father in Heaven.
2. What-We are to pray for His second coming and for His will to be done in our lives.
3. When-We are to pray daily for our needs and not just once a day. We are commanded to pray without ceasing. This means we are to bring our petitions for others, our heart's desires, and seek His will for our life.
4. Where-When we conduct our personal prayer, it should be in private. *6 "But you, when you pray, go into your inner room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees what is done in secret will reward you" (Matthew 6:6).*
5. How-Jesus taught us not to repeat words over and over, *"And when you pray, you are not to be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and on the street corners so that they may be seen by men. Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full" (Matthew 6:5).* Let God hear your heart when you pray

If you don't have a fervent prayer life, I will encourage you to cry out to God and ask Him to give you a heart and desire to pray.

Your shepherd,

Pastor Mark

Grace Gems

- The Valley of Vision

Lord, High and Holy, Meek and Lowly,

Thou hast brought me to the valley of vision, where I live in the depths but see thee in the heights; hemmed in by mountains of sin I behold thy glory.

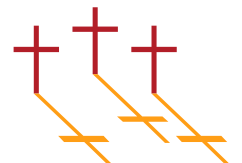
Let me learn by paradox that the way down is the way up, that to be low is to be high, that the broken heart is the healed heart, that the contrite spirit is the rejoicing spirit, that the repenting soul is the victorious soul, that to have nothing is to possess all, that to bear the cross is to wear the crown, that to give is to receive, that the valley is the place of vision.

Lord, in the daytime stars can be seen from deepest wells, and the deeper the wells the brighter thy stars shine; Let me find thy light in my darkness, thy life in my death, thy joy in my sorrow, thy grace in my sin, thy riches in my poverty, thy glory in my valley.

Quote of the Week

"True prayer is measured by weight, and not by length. A single groan before God may have more fullness of prayer in it than a fine oration of great length."

- Charles Spurgeon



Weekly Gatherings

Bible Classes

Old Testament
New Testament
Young Parents
Young Adults
Sunday Morning @ 9AM

Weekday Meetings

Mondays | 7PM
Men's Bible Study
Every other Saturday:
Women of Grace | 9am

Family Groups

Thursdays @ 7PM
every other week @ Chambers, Cox's,
Patrick's and beginning 6/23 @ the
Brown's

Build the Body Teams

If you would like to serve on a BtB Team
and forgot to sign up, please contact the
team leader at the appropriate email
address.

Youth Study

Wednesdays @6:30PM
Youth Study

Service Times

Sunday Service 10:30AM
Children's Church @10:30AM

Giving from service on 8/21/2022

General Offering	7,275.87
Building Fund	564.00
Uganda	155.00
Benevolence	88.00
Total.....	8,082.87

Attendance	212
Sunday School	143
Online.....	22

Build the Body Ministries

Women's Ministry-women@ghbcva.org
AWANA-awana@ghbcva.org
Outreach Ministry-outreach@ghbcva.org
Worship Ministry-worship@ghbcva.org
Men's Ministry-men@ghbcva.org
Children's Ministry-children@ghbcva.org
Youth Ministry-youth@ghbcva.org
Prayer Team-prayer@ghbcva.org
Maintenance-maintenance @ghbcva.org
Fellowship-fellowship@ghbcva.org
Communications-communications@ghbcva.org
Front Line-frontline@ghbcva.org
Security-security@ghbcva.org



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Grace Harvest Baptist Church

Aug 28, 2022

Welcome