

Mt. Lebanon Church

Sermon

January 2020

Please look up and read all verses in their entirety. I have only written partial verses.

Make your own notes, write down other scriptures that you run across while studying, write down questions that you may have or comments as well. Allow the Holy Spirit to reveal to you what he would have you to see through the study of Gods word.

Why do we pray

Why did Christ pray

If it is God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit and all three are as one then why the need to pray.

Christ prayed to set an example for us.

What did he pray.

He prayed for others

He prayed with others

He prayed alone

He prayed regularly

He prayed persistently

We see from example that when Christ prayed God the Father was always in charge.

We must learn to follow his example and fervently pray as Christ did.

Greatest question:

Do we talk about prayer more than we actually pray.

A lot of us probably talk and read about prayer more than we actually pray.

We want to look at 4 things in the prayer life of Christ to help us in our quest to be able to pray as Christ would have us to.

These 4 things we see when Christ prayed in the garden. The substance of his prayer is the way he prayed so fervently and will allow us to do the same.

Our prayers a lot of times become side tracked because they have no substance.

His prayer had:

#1 Intimacy

#2 Submission

#3 Grace

#4 Focus

#1 Spiritual Intimacy

Genesis 1:26,.....Let us make man in our image, according to our likeness

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You cant get more intimate than that.

God started out by giving man a spirit that could communicate with his spirit.

Man allowed sin to destroy that communication, therefore man became spiritually separated from God.

God had to make a way to restore the intimacy and communication.

Christ came to repair the spiritual intimacy and communication.

Ephesians 2: 1 – 5,and you he made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins....by grace you have been saved....

The fall of man occurred in the garden.

The start of redemption occurred in a garden as well.

Our spiritual intimacy begins again through salvation, and then begins our journey to Gods passion.

Psalms 63: 1 – 5, O God, you are my God.... My soul shall be satisfied.... My mouth shall praise you....

David was showing his intimacy to God.

We must seek Gods passion. God does not draw near to those who do not draw near to him.

James 4: 8 – 10,Draw near to God....humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord....

It is not always easy to be constantly connected to Christ.

We must believe that if we submit unto God, study the word daily, renew our spirit in prayer – than Satan will have no control over our life.

When we humble ourselves in the sight of the Lord, end our friendship with the world, repent from sin, we receive Gods grace.

Intimacy with God comes through salvation.

#2 Spiritual Submission:

How do we submit to God.

Putting others before our selves.

Not always doing just what we want to do.

Putting Gods desires above our desires.

Through the regeneration of the Holy Spirit we possess a renewed spiritual mind set which guides us to obey God.

2 Corinthians 4: 16 – 18,do not lose heart....our light affliction is but for a moment

1 Peter 5:6,humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God....

Philippians 2:3,4 -let nothing be done through selfish ambition....

Submission is not an act of humility

Submission is out of love

Submission to God should always be first in our life

Submission to God Through faith in Christ is the basis for eternal salvation

Through Faith, by Christ death and resurrection, righteousness is provided, which enables justification by God.

#3 Grace – Gods Grace

1 Corinthians 10:13,God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted, beyond what you are able....

Remember, when Christ went to the garden, his main instruction to his disciples was to pray: That they would not enter into temptation.

This can only happen with Gods Grace.

2 Corinthians 12: 9,10 -My grace is sufficient for you, my strength is made perfect in weakness....

Strengthening Grace:

Gods ability working through us, to help us overcome temptation.

Ephesians 2: 8 – 10,For by grace you have been saved....

God has shown us the riches of his grace through his son by the incredible blessing of salvation.

Grace is a free gift given, based on the kind intentions of the giver, to a recipient who has no claim on it.

Ephesians 3: 8,9 -Grace given that I should preach....

#4 Focus:

The things that consumes your mind, controls your life.

The more we focus on God, the more the spirit helps us to be Christ like.

The more we are Christ like, the greater understanding we have of Gods sufficiency in all of our lifes difficulties and with that comes spiritual satisfaction in God.

Psalms 46:10,Be still and know that I am God....

Colossians 3: 1 – 4,....Seek those things which are above....

Philippians 3: 13,14 -I press toward the goal....

Ephesians 6: 10 – 13,Be strong in the Lord....

We can only be strong in the Lord if we are focused on the Lord.

The only way to stay focused is through constant communication.

Through prayer and study of Gods word with the leadership of the Holy Spirit we can achieve the line of communication to God that we so greatly desire, and that he so greatly deserves.

We will then find the intimacy we need with him, we will find that we have greater submission through his grace, and have a greater focus in our prayer life.

Let us pray.

If anyone has any questions, comments or would just like to discuss any of the scriptures, feel free to call, text or email me. Keep praying for each other and all the God lays upon your heart. Hope to see everyone soon. God Bless.

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