"Lord, teach us to pray" Part 1

A Two-Part Teaching on Prayer
The Final Project for
BIBL/THEO 5173 Fasting, Prayer
and Spiritual Warfare
By Timothy B. White



Prayer is:
"Communication
that requires a
Conversation"

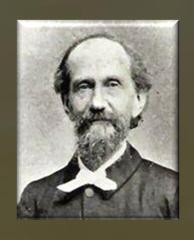
- Confession/Repentance
- Supplication
- Petitions
- Intercessions
- Praying in the Spirit/Tongues
- Adoration and Worship
- Praise and Thanksgiving
- Communion

Prayer is shown as *relational* and *conversational*

- God's People Submit to Grace
- Psalmist/Prophets Confess sin
- David- Forgiveness & Restoration
- Seraphs (angelic) "Holy, Holy..."
- Isaiah "Woe to me!"
- Asaph to know God

"Whom have I in heaven but you? And earth has nothing I desire more than you." (Ps 73:25)

Luke 11:1 One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples."



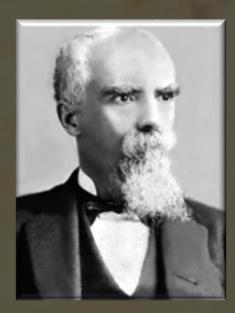
"Jesus never taught His disciples how to preach, only how to pray... To know how to speak to God is more (important) than knowing how to speak to man. Not power with men; 'but power with God is, the first thing." – Andrew Murray

Col 4:2 NIV "Devote yourselves to prayer,..."

- "Devote" proskartereo
- to adhere to Act 2:42 NIV They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer
- to be steadfastly attentive unto Act 6:4 NIV and will give our attention to (proskartereo) prayer and the ministry of the word."

Col 4:2 NIV "Devote yourselves to prayer,..."

- "Devote" proskartereo
- to continue all the time in a place Act 1:14 NASB These all with one mind were continually devoting themselves to prayer, along with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers.
- "pray without ceasing" (1 Thess. 5:17) = uninterruptedly



"The men who have most fully illustrated Christ in their character, and have most powerfully affected the world for him, have been men who spent so much time with God as to make it a notable feature of their lives." — E. M. Bounds

Act 4:13 NIV When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus.

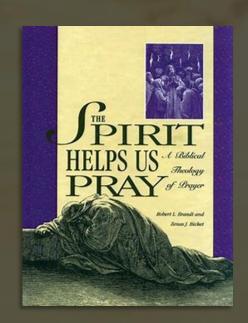
The Dynamic of praying in tongues/in the Spirit: 1Co 14:2,4, 14-15 - builds up, strengthens, encourages

(2)...anyone who speaks in a tongue <u>speaks</u>... to <u>God</u>...they <u>utter mysteries</u> by the Spirit... (4) Anyone who speaks in a tongue <u>edifies themselves</u> (14) For if I pray in a tongue, <u>my Spirit prays</u>, but my mind is unfruitful. (15) So what shall I do? I will <u>pray with my Spirit</u>, but I will also pray with my understanding; I will <u>sing with my Spirit</u>, but I will also sing with my understanding....

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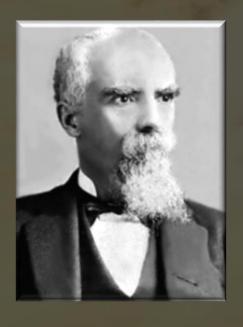
Eph 6:18 NIV

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.



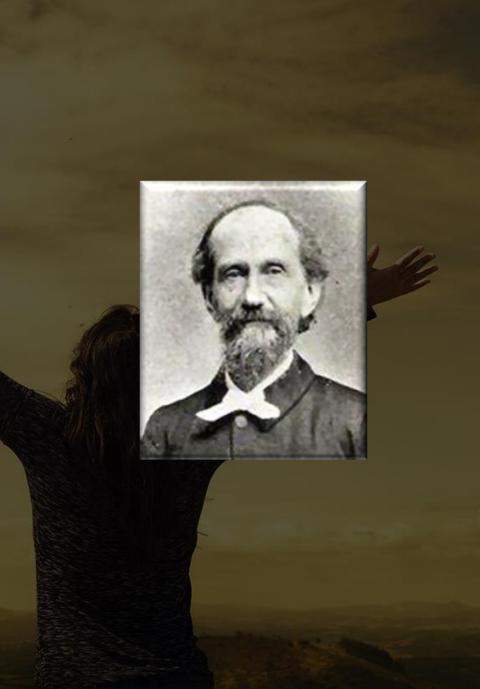
"We live in an age that avoids intimacy and close relationships... ... (therefore) some Christians feel uncomfortable getting too close to God. *Prayerlessness is the result...*"

"Failure to understand the purpose of the Pentecostal experience and the primary role of prayer in maintaining the vitality of that experience also results in prayerlessness." – Brandt & Beckit

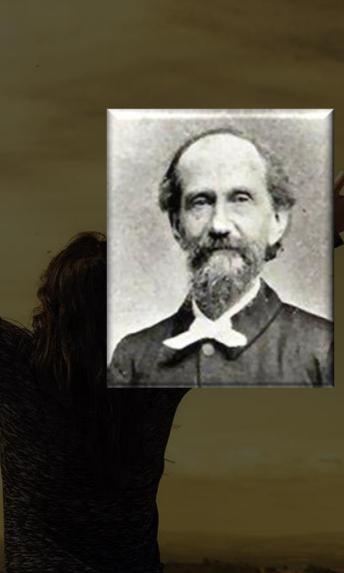


"Let it be remembered that the source of decline in religion and the proof of decline in a Christian life is found just here, in 'short and superficial praying." Such praying betokens and secures strangeness with God." – E. M. Bounds

"Learn the great lesson that your prayers must rule your whole life ...Oh, the sacredness and power of prayer, if it takes possession of the heart and life! It keeps us constantly in fellowship with God." Andrew Murray



"Prayer is indeed the very pulse of the spiritual life. It is the great means of bringing to the minister and people the blessing and power of heaven. Persevering and believing prayer means a strong and an abundant life." Andrew Murray

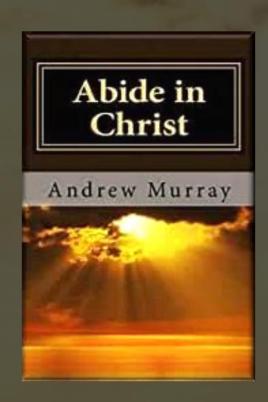


Brandt & Beckit said: "Prayer is the most intimate expression of the Christian life."

Andrew Murray said: "(Prayer) is *fellowship* with the Unseen and Most Holy One."

John 15:5, 7 NASB "I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing... (7) "If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. (8) "My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples.

"Abide" - $men\bar{o}$ = to remain, not to depart, continue to be present, endure, to live



"During the life of Jesus on earth, the word He chiefly used when speaking of the relations of the disciples to Himself was: 'Follow me.' When about to leave for heaven, He gave them a new word, in which their more intimate and spiritual union with Himself in glory should be expressed. That chosen word was: 'Abide in me.'"



TWO KEY ELEMENTS TO PRAYER

"Believing and Unceasing"

Heb 11:6 NIV "And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must <u>believe</u> that he <u>exists</u> and that he <u>rewards</u> those who <u>earnestly seek him."</u>



"Believing and Unceasing Prayer" Luke 11:5-13

There was CONFIDENCE because of Relationship

Believing & Unceasing Prayer is PRODUCED by

Relationship from Abiding

When we learn to Abide in Christ our Prayer Life will have a Comprehensive Impact on Life

- Primary Key to Accomplishing God's Work
- Essential to Warding Off
 Temptation and Discouragement
- Helps the Believer Reach Proper Decisions
- Provides Strength When Pressures
 Cause Us To Be Inclined To Give Up.

Isaiah 40:31 NKJV
But those who wait on the LORD Shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint.

More Than a List - Our Prayer Life Is To Be:

- One of abiding with Christ and Father.
- Place of honesty, intimacy, fellowship, humility, and worship
- Times of Confession, Communion, Conversation
- Characterized by bold requests, confidence in Father, Unceasing
- Should shape our "whole life" as God the Father goes with us.

"Lord, teach us to pray!"

"Lord, teach us to pray" begins with "Abide in Me"

Andrew Murray



Each time, before you intercede, be quiet first, and worship God in His glory. Think of what He can do, and how He delights to hear the prayers of His redeemed people. Think of your place and privilege in Christ, and expect great things!