

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Why is prayer a privilege?
2. Can we pray effectively without having a desire or need to pray?
3. What is an effectual, fervent prayer?
4. How can we pray more fervently?
5. Why must we sometimes wait so long for God to answer our prayers?
6. Why doesn't God always give us what we ask for?

SUMMARY:

It is pleasing to God to see men who desire to pray. Jesus responded to His disciples' request, "Teach us to pray" by showing them the pattern to be followed in praying. This in itself illustrates God's willingness to help those who, in need, ask Him. A prayer, as Jesus illustrated, is not complicated, but is simple and has two primary elements: (1) giving thanks and praise to God, and (2) confessing our need and dependence upon God.

In the parable Jesus teaches the importance of earnestly praying until we receive an answer. Although God knows our needs before we ask (Matthew 6:8), there is no promise to those who do not ask. To everyone who asks Him, God promises to give good things, i.e. that which is His will. *"For we know not what we should pray for as we ought, But the Spirit makes intercession for us according to the will of God."* (Romans 8:26-27)

NOTES:

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #10

September 7, 2014

Third Quarter

PRAYER, OUR PRIVILEGE

LESSON TEXT: *Luke 11:1-13*

LESSON SETTING: Christ teaches the disciples how to pray.

TIME: The first century.

I. THE PATTERN. Luke 11:1-4

- A. Desire to pray (vs. 1) Nehemiah 1:1; Psalm 119:164; Daniel 6:10
- B. Praise to God (vs. 2) 1 Chronicles 16:35; Psalm 145:2; Isaiah 37:16
- C. Physical needs (vs. 3)
- D. Necessity to ask forgiveness (vs. 4) Matthew 6:14-15; John 9:31
- E. Deliverance from temptation (vs. 4) Matthew 26:41

II. THE PARABLE. Luke 11:5-8

- A. Importance of realizing a need. (vs. 6) Matthew 9:12; Luke 6:21, 25
- B. Making a request (vs. 5) Romans 1:9-10; Philippians 1:4; 4:6
- C. Persistence in praying (vs. 8) Luke 18:7; 1 Thessalonians 5:17
- D. Request granted (vs. 8) Matthew 18:19; Romans 10:12

III. THE PROMISE. Luke 11:9-13

- A. Laboring in prayer (vs. 9, 10) Luke 22:44; Colossians 4:12; James 5:16
- B. The result—God's Will. Matthew 7:11; Mark 11:24; John 14:13-14
- C. The Holy Spirit—Intercessor (vs. 13) Romans 8:26-27

GOLDEN TEXT: *ASK, AND IT SHALL BE GIVEN YOU: SEEK, AND YE SHALL FIND; KNOCK, AND IT SHALL BE OPENED UNTO YOU.*

Luke 11:9

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: 1 Corinthians 9:24 through 10:13

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: Romans 8:1-39; 1 John 2:14-17

QUARTERLY THEME: The Bible and The Christian Life

TOPIC: VICTORIOUS LIVING

INTRODUCTION:

A prayer life gives us victorious living. When we live close to God we soon learn to know what is pleasing or displeasing to Him. In learning this we are given the power to overcome the world, the flesh and the devil.

So often we fail to recognize as temptations what the devil brings to us in the form of fears, doubts and discouragement. He does not always tempt the Christian with gross sins but subtly entices us to indulge in fears, doubts, discouragement, self-pity, anger, bitterness, etc. Our faith is weakened and victory is turned to failure.

God promises that we will be victorious if we depend upon Him and turn from the wiles of the devil. This dependence upon Him is a testing of our faith and if our faith stands the test, the result is victorious living. It is our faith that believes that Christ overcame the world and even as He overcame we can overcome by completely depending upon Him.

CENTRAL TRUTH: In salvation God provides the power to be victorious over the world, the flesh, and the devil.

GOLDEN TEXT: *THE LORD KNOWETH HOW TO DELIVER THE GODLY OUT OF TEMPTATIONS, . . .*

2 Peter 2:9

Again in this text we find that God's help is always near, but, as always, it is promised subject to certain conditions. To expect the Lord to deliver us out of temptations, we ourselves must be striving for godliness. We also, must be putting forth an effort for the good, avoiding those things which would tempt us, and as Paul wrote, *"But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection."* (1 Corinthians 9:27)

We can never attain godliness without the Lord's grace and help, we can never gain the victory over temptations by ourselves, while on the other hand, we also cannot expect help from above, unless we are striving earnestly and praying fervently for a "faith that overcometh the world."

Bravely strive when God doth call thee
When He turns to thee in Grace;
Cast off aught that would enthrall thee
And would hinder in the race. Z.H. 47:1

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF September 8 - 14

M. Withstanding Temptation. Proverbs 1:10-19

T. Daniel's Victory. Daniel 1:1-17

W. Christ's Victory. Luke 4:1-13

T. Guarding Against Temptation. Ephesians 6:10-20

F. Kept Blameless in Christ. 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

S. *Victorious Living. 1 Corinthians 9:24 through 10:13

S. The Godly Delivered. 2 Peter 2:1-9