

A Call to Prayer – Pam Yates 09.01.22

Session 1 – Why Pray

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. Thessalonians 5 v 16- 18

As a Christian, prayer should be as essential as cleaning one's teeth every day! It should be an expression and a nurturing, and developing of our personal relationship with God. It draws us close to Him, and it involves listening as well as speaking, learning to hear His voice, in the quiet garden of our hearts. There are certain basic needs, a father provides for his child, even though the child does not ask. In the same way, our heavenly Father provides, in endless ways, day by day, things that we often take for granted. His desire is for us to express our faith, and to respond to His love, by humbly coming, yet confidentially.

a) Matthew 6 v 6b Then your Father who sees what is done in secret will reward you.

Be assured you are coming to the King of All Kings, who is also a loving and heavenly Father, who has a telephone link 24/7! His love for you will never falter, and nothing is impossible for Him. It is the prayer of the heart of God listens to, not just a form of words. The prayer of the heart, enables us to pour out our most innermost burdens and concerns to the Lord.

b) Revelation 4 v8b Day and night they never stop saying: Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was is, and is to come.

God created us to worship Him, and only for His pleasure. It so delights His heart. Prayer is part of that worship. Thanks and praise should always precede prayer, whether individually or corporately.

Psalm 22 v 3 God inhabits the praises of His people.

When we praise Him, His presence comes down, worship takes us into that presence, through the veil, to the throne room itself.

Psalm 100 v 4-5 Enter His gates with thanksgiving and into His courts with praise, give thanks to Him and praise His Name. For the Lord is good and His love endures forever; His faithfulness continues through all generations.

c) Acts 1 v 8a But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come on you.

Jesus was equipping His disciples and all believers, to continue the work he had began on earth, until He returns in All His Glory. Up until that time the disciples did not know how to pray, they even fell asleep in the garden, when they were suppose to be keeping watch. On the mount of Beatitudes, Jesus was sat teaching His disciples, and in *Matthew 6 v 5-14 “The Lords Prayer”*

**Our Father – awesome in majesty and glory
Hallowed be Your Name – His Name is Holy to be revered
Your Kingdom come – praying what God requires
Your will be done -an extension of the above
Give us this daily bread- all we need to live the life of God's kingdom here on earth
Forgive us our trespasses -sin separates us from God. We need to keep short accounts.
Lead us not into temptation – being able to overcome in trying circumstances
Deliver us from evil - shield us from the thief who wants to steal, kill and destroy. From sickness, premature death, and anything that would undermine our witness and spiritual effectiveness.
For Yours is the Kingdom – Praise and Glory . Acknowledging again that all the glory goes to our heavenly Father and to the Lamb, Jesus. He has already won the victory on our behalf.**

2Chron 7 v 14 If My people will humble themselves and pray and seek My face , and turn from their wicked ways , then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

There are so many promises in God's word, but there is always a condition that we have to fulfil. God is always looking for men & women, who are prepared to lay down their own agendas, to stand in the gap for God's eternal purposes. The above scripture is speaking about when we pray corporately. We stand in the gap on behalf of the church, our town or city, or our nation. Repenting of ungodly laws and actions, which have allowed sin to take a hold. Having the gates open wide, has given the enemy a rightful foothold. All that Jesus requires is for us to come humbly before Him, and cry out for mercy. Proclaiming God's word over the circumstance, knowing we are in line with His will, and that He is more that able to move in the situation, so that all the glory goes to Him, and Him only.

Prayer

Create in me a clean heart O God, forgive me of my sin, and renew a right spirit within me.

Father, as we engage in the Call to Prayer, open our eyes, and ears and hearts to receive that which the Holy Spirit is wanting to impart individually and corporately. May you be our first love, to see things from Your perspective, so that we can walk in the paths that would prepare us to be co- workers with You, preparing the way for Your return. Thank you Jesus for your mercy, grace and love. AMEN