

# **Prayer**

*John MacArthur*

## **I. Introduction.**

A. Text: Ephesians 6:18-22.

B. Christians are fantastic because of God's grace: they are super blessed, super loved, super forgiven, wise, secure, alive, objects of eternal grace, close to God and powerful. Christians have everything they need to mature and grow.

C. Spiritual overconfidence can unfortunately arise eroding one's dependence upon God.

D. To address this problem, the believer is to pray always acknowledging his or her dependence upon God.

E. People do not pray because of laziness, selfishness, unconcern and indifference.

## **II. General instruction on prayer.**

A. There are four alls for prayer.

1. We are to pray always. (Philippians 4:6, Colossians 4:2, 1 Thessalonians 5)

a. Only selfish people are not praying all the time.

b. The reason is that there is never an end to the needs of others.

c. Praying always means to be God-conscious so that everything that happens is in reference to God.

2. We are to pray with all prayer.

a. This refers to every kind of prayer.

b. This includes confession, praise, standing, sitting, etc.

c. Prayer is designed to be going on with every kind of emotion and experience.

3. We are to pray watching.

a. This means we are to be aware of the needs around us.

b. Our prayers should be specific.

4. We are to pray for all the saints.

## **III. Illustration.**

**Application Questions:**

1. How can one practically “pray always?”

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2. What is the relationship between spiritual power and prayer? Explain.

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3. What kinds of prayer can you engage in to revive or bring more life to your prayer life?

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