

Need for Days of Prayer

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I. Introduction.

- A. Usually when we have the least amount of time for prayer we need it the most.
- B. Whenever one finds himself confused and overburdened, it is the Devil at work.
- C. One way to combat the Devil is to stop everything.
- D. Two important things to know: the Scriptures and the power of God. (Matthew 22:39, Psalm 66)

II. Why we need days of prayer.

- A. We need to get back to eternal things.
 - 1. The things that we cannot see are lasting. (2 Corinthians 4)
 - 2. Do the unseen realities grip our souls or are we practical atheists?
 - 3. We need to be shaken so that the things which cannot be shaken will remain.
 - 4. Job was blessed with double of what he had at first - even sons and daughters since those that had died were still his. (Job 42)
 - 5. Do not let the world squeeze you into its mold. Worldliness is to leave God out of the picture.
- B. We need to cultivate compassion and lose the irritability. Jesus had compassion on people because they were lost, hungry and the lonely.
- C. We have not because we ask not.
- D. We want to know what it means to have fellowship with the God of the universe. (Daniel 5:21)
 - 1. How much will it take for us to see God at work in the lives of men and women?
 - 2. Not seeing God at work is a lack of reality.
 - 3. The key to the success of the Navigator's founder was his time in prayer claiming God's promises in private.

4. God wants us to pray together as well as alone. (Malachi 3:16)

5. We need to talk more about God .

E. We need time for prayer to break through in faith to specific promises as they relate to everyday life. Your time with God is in relationship to your life today.

III. Suggestions. (2 Chronicles 7:14)

A. God wants sincerity, openness and honesty with Him. Do not make a confession you are not honest about, thank Him for something you are not thankful for, and request what you do not really want.

B. It starts with confession.

1. This is admitting reality.

2. The reality is that we are helpless - without Him we can do nothing.

3. Even the activities we need to have victory we need help to do, such as being in prayer and the word.

4. The basis of all true prayer is helplessness.

5. We all have the potential of the greatest sin.

C. We humble ourselves for what we have done. (1 Peter 1)

1. By nature we are at odds with one another.

2. We practice guile.

3. We practice hypocrisy instead of integrity.

4. We are envious - discontent at the good fortune or excellence of another. Envy eats people up.

5. We slander - giving false report to harm another person. This has destroyed ministries.

6. Ask the Lord to give you a tender heart so that these things will not go by. Make sure every sin is confessed before Him.

D. Pray.

1. Be definite with God.

2. Quote the Bible out loud to God.
3. Pray unselfishly and persistently against Satan.
4. When we seek the face of the Lord we see our helplessness all the more. Evidence of genuine revival will be an appreciation of the holiness of God. In seeking God's face our sin is revealed to us. (Isaiah 6)
5. When God brings something to your mind, do something about it the first opportunity you get.

Application questions

1. Which two reasons for the need of prayer stand out to you? Why?

2. Which two principles for practicing prayer stand out to you? Explain.

3. How will you arrange your schedule to better make prayer central to your day?
