

## God's Purpose in Purging (John 15:1-11) Part 5 "Abiding in Christ and Fruitful Prayers"

There must be union and communion! Union to the Vine is not enough for "fruit-bearing." In order to bear fruit there must be a living, vital connection—communion with the Vine. – Warren Wiersbe

- ❖ Consider the Person of the Abiding Relationship—CHRIST
- ❖ Consider the Principles of the Abiding Relationship
  - Respond by being Dependent on Christ
  - Respond by being Devoted to Christ

God's desire for each of us is that we live lives of prayer.

- Christ emphasized to His disciples the need for prayer.

**Luke 18:1** And **He** spake a parable unto them *to this end*, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint;

- The early Church examples:

**Acts 1:14** These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of **Jesus**, and with his brethren.

Cf. Acts 2:42; 12:5

- The commands in Scripture:

**1 Thessalonians 5:17** Pray without ceasing.

**Romans 12:12** Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer;

Cf. Philippians 4:6-7

### I. The Reasons for \_\_\_\_\_ in Prayer

A. Prayer of the \_\_\_\_\_ (John 9:31)

B. \_\_\_\_\_ Prayer (Proverbs 15:8 & 29)

C. \_\_\_\_\_ Prayer (James 4:3)

**John 15:8** Herein is **My Father** glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be **My** disciples.

D. \_\_\_\_\_ in Prayer (Psalm 66:18)

E. \_\_\_\_\_ Prayer (Matthew 21:22)

**James 1:6-8** But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.<sup>7</sup> For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the **Lord**.<sup>8</sup> A double minded man *is* unstable in all his ways.

Cf. Hebrews 11:6

### F. \_\_\_\_\_ Prayer (Proverbs 28:9)

Cf. Proverbs 1:24-26

Scripture is quite clear on how God views prayer. We must learn to faithfully pray and to faithfully pray God's way.

### II. The Reasons for \_\_\_\_\_ in Prayer (John 15:7)

Prayer is not conforming God's will to my will! Biblical prayer is conforming my will to God's will.

A. \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ—\_\_\_\_\_ upon Christ

B. His Word \_\_\_\_\_ in You—\_\_\_\_\_ to Christ

**Job 23:12** Neither have I gone back from the commandment of **His** lips; I have esteemed the Words of **His** mouth more than my necessary *food*.

Cf. Psalm 119:11

**Romans 8:26** Likewise the **Spirit** also helpeth our infirmities [*weaknesses*]: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the **Spirit** itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

Notice the resulting confidence that we can have...

**1 John 5:14-15** And this is the confidence that we have in **Him**, that, if we ask any thing according to **His** will, **He** heareth us:<sup>15</sup> And if we know that **He** hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of **Him**.

Cf. John 14:13-14

C. \_\_\_\_\_ to the Word (1 John 3:22)

**John 9:31** Now we know that **God** heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshipper of **God**, and doeth **His** will, him **He** heareth.

**Answered prayer comes through abiding in Christ and abiding comes through obedience to Christ.**

**What is my next step?**

Consider your own prayer life...is it anemic, weak, non-existent? How often do you pray? How do you pray? What value to you place on prayer?

Based upon what we have seen in God's Word, how does HE look upon your prayers?

As you have heard from God through His Word, what changes do you need to make in your prayer life?