

Effective Prayer: Purpose, Position and Peace

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Introduction: This sermon is the sixth and final sermon in a series of sermons on prayer. Last week we explored prayer helping from a bitter cup to a cup that runs over. This week we discuss the relationship between effective prayer and our purpose, our position, and our peace.

I. REVIEW:

- A. WHAT IS PRAYER? Prayer is **dialogue** with God through **faith** and the power and synergy of the Holy Spirit.
- B. PRAYER ALLOWS US TO “DWELL IN THE SECRET PLACE OF THE MOST HIGH” (PSALM 91)
- C. THREE PRACTICAL STEPS TO AN EFFECTIVE PRAYER LIFE. 1. Develop a habit of Quiet and Alone Time with God. 2. Practice the prayer types (**Adoration, Thanksgiving, Intercession, Forgiveness, Supplication**) “**ANY TIME I FIND SOLITUDE**”. 3. Expect and **record** the **results** of your prayer life.
- D. EVIDENCE OF AN EFFECTIVE PRAYER LIFE. (a) PRAYER **CHANGES** THINGS. (b) PRAYER **LOOSENS** CHAINS. (c) PRAYER GIVES US **COURAGE**.
- E. PRAYER HELPS US MOVE FROM **LIFE’S BITTER CUPS** TO CUPS THAT RUN OVER. (a) Prayer is not a **substitute** for faith. (b). “I am blessed beyond recognition.” (c). An overflowing cup is meant to be **shared**, not **wasted**.

II. PRAYER OUTSIDE OF GOD’S **PURPOSE** IS DANGEROUSLY **INEFFECTIVE** (Romans 8:28; James 5:17; James 4:3)

III. PRAYER HELPS US TO STAY IN THE RIGHT **POSITION** RELATIVE TO GOD AND TO EACH OTHER. (John 17:23; John 15:16-17)

IV. PRAYER GIVES US **PEACE**. (Mark 4: 38-39; Philippians 4:6-7)