

Prayerwalking



Taking Your Faith Into The Real World



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A Prayer Lifestyle

One of the common questions that I hear at prayerwalking conferences and seminars is, “How can I become effective in prayerwalking?” There’s no simple answer to that question. No doubt, there are a variety of truths that one can learn in order to take prayer into the streets. There are a number of prayer models and Scriptures that are helpful to know. However, at the root of effective prayerwalking is a lifestyle of prayer.

You may be wondering, “What do you mean by a ‘lifestyle of prayer’?” A lifestyle of prayer consists of three distinct parts. This issue of the *Prayerwalking* newsletter will focus on these distinct parts of a lifestyle of prayer.

A lifestyle of prayer begins when you surrender your life to Jesus Christ.

When you trust in Jesus Christ as your personal Savior and Lord, God becomes your Father. You receive the privilege of having fellowship with God

– speaking and listening to Him. The Word of God says in **Ephesians 2:18**, “For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father.” The “through Him” refers to Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ gives us access to the Father.

Through faith in Jesus, we have access to God – an open door into God’s presence. We have the opportunity to know Him personally and to speak personally to Him. Because of sin, we are separated from God. Sin was a barrier between God and you. Yet, through faith in Jesus Christ, you now have the privilege of spending time with and getting to know your God and Father.

As astounding as this is, it gets even better! Not only do you have access to God, you can come with boldness and confidence, “Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need” (**Hebrews 4:16**). By trusting in Jesus Christ, you have the blessing of coming

into His presence with boldness and confidence. You can adore Him. You can confess your sins to Him. You can thank Him for His rich goodness toward you. You can offer petitions to Him. You can listen to Him. You can just rest in His presence in silence.

In order to help you take advantage of this opportunity, God has given you the Holy Spirit. The Word of God says in **Galatians 4:6**, "And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!" **Ephesians 2:18** also says that we have access to God "by one Spirit." The Holy Spirit empowers you to pray. He enables you to pray to your Father.

When you come to Jesus Christ in true faith, this opens the door to God's presence. You also receive the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit enables you to walk through that door into God's presence! He is the One who enables you to take advantage of this access. A lifestyle begins when you trust in Jesus Christ.

Have you trusted in Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Savior? A lifestyle of prayer is impossible apart from this. It is only when you trust in Christ that God becomes your Father, you have access to Him, and the Holy Spirit enables you to pray.

A lifestyle of prayer is anchored in a daily quiet time.

Because of your faith in Jesus Christ, you now have a personal relationship with God. He is your Father and God. You are His child. You have access to Him. You can enter His presence and spend time with Him.

Because of these truths, you should make an appointment to spend time with Him daily. God desires this from you. He longs to spend time with you.

You may be saying, "How do you know that for sure?" It's because of the words of Jesus, "But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who *is* in the secret *place*; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly" (**Matthew 6:6**). Jesus came to reveal to us what the Father revealed to Him. His words come directly from the Father! These words show us the heart and will of our heavenly Father. Your Father loves you. He wants to spend time with you. This is God's desire for you.

The door is open to His presence. He invites you to come. He yearns for you to come and fellowship with Him. Yet, this involves a commitment to make the time to pray. A believer has to be willing to say "No" to some things in order to have that daily time with the Lord. There has to be a conscious decision to get alone and to get with God.

There will always be others and situations that clamor for your time and attention. There will always be

something to do or somewhere to go. Yet, it is a choice is that every believer has to make. Set a time and a place to meet with your loving Father.

Along with this commitment, there needs to be a proper focus. Jesus says, “pray to your Father.” This is time alone with your Father. It’s time to speak to Him and listen to Him. He loves you and invites you; you can anticipate and expect that He will meet with you. This is the anchor to a lifestyle of prayer. It’s crucial for your relationship with God.

A lifestyle of prayer is developed by having an ongoing conversation with God.

A lifestyle of prayer begins when you give your life to Jesus Christ. It is anchored by a quiet time with Him daily. Yet, having an ongoing conversation with Him develops this lifestyle of prayer.

The Word of God says in **1 Thessalonians 5:17**, “Pray without ceasing.” What does God mean by this command? It can’t mean that we are to pray 24 hour a day 7 days a week. That would be impossible.

This phrase “pray without ceasing” means that you are to have an ongoing conversation with Him. You are to talk with Him everywhere you go. When your quiet time ends, it doesn’t mean that you stop talking to God. Remember we said that your quiet time is the anchor for your lifestyle of

prayer. It prepares you to spend the day with Him.

1 Thessalonians 5:17 calls for developing an ongoing conversation with God. It means moving your quiet outside the four walls of your private space. It is carrying on a conversation with God throughout the day. It’s talking with God in all the places you go concerning all the situations you face and the people you encounter.

It means talking and listening to God - when you’re in the shower, driving to work, eating at a restaurant, shopping at a store, at the stadium, or in the church. This is the lifestyle that God desires you to have.

God reveals His mercy and grace to us in **1 Thessalonians 5:17**. God says, “pray without ceasing.” God wants you to talk with Him continually. Imagine that! The eternal, almighty God wants to have an ongoing conversation with you. Isn’t that mercy? Isn’t that grace? He desires to hear your voice; He yearns for you to talk with Him throughout your day and night.

In the past, this was called “practicing the presence of God.” God is omnipresent. This means that He is everywhere. Since He is everywhere, you can talk to Him everywhere. This ongoing conversation develops the lifestyle of prayer.

Powerful prayerwalking is not about tricks or techniques. It’s about a lifestyle of prayer. Powerful prayerwalking is the overflow of a lifestyle of prayer. As we have our time

alone with Him and spend our days and nights talking to Him, it prepares us to hit the streets to intercede. Won't you start praying, "Lord teach me to pray. Enable me to have a lifestyle of prayer."

Scripture Prayers For Faith

The following are Scripture prayers that you can use to pray concerning your faith in the God.

Father, I thank You that I can enter Your presence because of Jesus. Increase my faith so that I can approach You with greater boldness and confidence. Amen.

Lord Jesus, I pray that You would increase my faith. Let my faith grow so that I can pray more powerfully and be effective in prayer. Amen.

Holy Spirit, I pray that You would grow and strengthen my faith through the Word of God. I ask that my faith would be increased and blessed each time I hear the Word of God. Amen.

Holy Spirit, create within me the faith that can ask without wavering in unbelief. I pray for the faith that trusts You and does not give in to doubt and unbelief. Amen.

Father, grant me the faith that pleases You. Teach me to diligently seek You as the Rewarder. Amen.

Father, I pray that You would grant me the faith that can receive mighty answers from You. Empower me to pray in faith, trusting You for answers. Amen.

Father, grant me the assurance of salvation through faith. I pray that my faith would be fixed solely on Jesus Christ and not on my works or me. Amen.

Lord Jesus, strengthen my faith so that I can resist the devil and his attacks in my life. I ask that I will learn how to resist him and his temptations through my faith in You and Your Word. Amen.

Father, I plead that You will deliver me from the unbelief that would hinder Your mighty work in my life. Deepen my faith in You and Your Word that I might experience Your mighty power. Amen.

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