



# THE LORD'S FLOCK GROWTH DIGEST

## PASTORAL GROWTH SERIES

### **The Crux of Prayerlessness (Prayerlessness Part 3)**

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The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish argument or every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ (2 Cor. 10:4-5).

- We have to use mighty weapons that can break strongholds that the enemy built in our lives to block the blessings.
- The mighty weapon that God gave us to knock down the strongholds of human reasoning is prayer.

Pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people (Eph. 6:18)

- We are facing different battles, but it's up to us how to fight it. We are not against flesh but principalities and the rulers of the darkness of this world.
- The enemy will do everything to pull us out of a relationship with the Lord. We are all battling the flesh, the world, and the devil.
- We fight these battles by choice, choose who you are with. Know your weakness to avoid failure.

I don't understand myself, for I want to do what is right, but I don't do it. Instead, I do what I hate (Rom. 7:15)

- The flesh wants to be gratified so it has to be denied.
- We cannot knock down the strongholds of the enemy if we use worldly weapons.
- Be different, inspire others.
- Prayer is spoken of as a weapon.
- We are in a battle that we often give little time to consider. We are forgetting that the Holy Spirit should be victorious in us.
- Prayer is where Satan attacks us - when we begin to pray, distractions come.
- If Satan can get us not to pray then he will severely hinder our spiritual walk.

- Prayerlessness is a sign that we are following the flesh.
- Prayerlessness is allowing Satan to win the battle.

Pray without ceasing (1 Thes. 5:17)

**How effective we will be?** Put on the Armor of God (Eph. 6:10-20)

- Be very watchful! There's a wall of protection around us. Do not allow Satan to get to us through disobedience
- Sometimes we see through dark glasses. We are blinded when we lack prayer.
- 52 demon spirits are running after us. Be alert, do not allow any of these spirits to come into our lives.
- The flow of the anointing should come from those in authority. If one disobeys - the flow of the anointing is cut.
- Be very mindful that as a team, we should be working harmoniously.
- Disobedience is a rebellion against God.
- We open doors for the devil to attack our community if we disobey those in authority.
- Many fail in battle because they wait until the hour of the battle, they are not prepared. Christians must be prepared for the battle because it never stops - Satan is not stopping from tempting us.
- Blessed are those who fight against temptation. When temptation comes, we need to pray - call Jesus, because He can help us, He is the greatest intercessor.

Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love Him (Jas. 1:12)

- No one should say, 'I'm being tempted by God', for God is not subject to temptation and he tempts no one. We are tempted when we are lured and enticed by our desire - the flesh.

The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak (Mt. 26:41)

- The flesh: The desire can bring forth sin, and when sin reaches maturity, it gives birth to death.

- We have to choose our associates to avoid the corruption of character.

Fighting the battle is not easy, but remember - I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me (Phils. 4:13)

- God will never forsake those who trust in Him.
- We fail the battle because we are not ready. Others succeed because they gain their victory on their knees long before the battle came.
- Be connected with the Commander-in-Chief - God.
- Anticipate your battle, every moment is - fight it on bended knees before it comes, and you will be victorious.
- Any situation is determined by whether we fought in the natural or spiritual weapon (prayers).
- In prayer, the spiritual weapon is the Word of God.
- It is essential to keep the communication line open, free from satanic static.

#### **Sin interferes with earth to heaven communication.**

- If you regard iniquity in your heart, your prayers are an abomination to God (Ps. 66:18)
- Whatever we pray if we are not reconciled with God, He will not listen; cease doing evil, learn to do good; make justice your aim, hear the orphans' plea. Set it right with God. (Isa. 1:15-17) God is always willing to forgive.
- Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer (Rom. 12:12)
- Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful (Col. 4:2)
- Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus (1 Thes. 5:16-18)
- The Lord detests the sacrifice of the wicked, but the prayer of the upright pleases Him (Prov. 15:8)
- Prayer is our lifeline to God
- Prayerlessness is an insult to Him
- Every prayerless day is a statement by a helpless individual -'I do not need God today'
- Failing to pray reflects idolatry - a trust in substitute for God. Prayerlessness short-circuits the working of God.
- Neglecting prayer is not a weakness, it is a sinful choice.
- Prayer is a shield to our soul, a delight to God, a scourge to Satan.

#### **God answers prayer. Sometimes yes, no, later, wait, or stop.**

- With the Lord, a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years is like a day (2 Pt. 3:8)
- Ask in faith, but rest in peace-filled patience.
- Sin will keep God from hearing our prayers.

#### **How to be heard?**

- Pray in faith (Heb. 11:6)
- The prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven (Jas. 5:15)
- Prayer with clean hands and pure hearts (Ps. 24:3-4)
- Heartfelt prayers rather than vain repetitions (Mt. 6:7)

#### **How do you pray with faith?**

- Abraham was a man of great faith. He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief (Rom. 4:20-21)

#### **How do we have clean hands and pure hearts?**

- But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ, His Son, purifies us from all sin (1 Jn. 1:7)
- For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more (Heb. 8:12)

#### **How do we pray genuine and heartfelt prayers?**

- Simply by keeping yourselves in love with God. If the love of God is in you, you will never pray a selfish prayer.
- Prayer can move mountains; can change human hearts, families, neighborhoods, cities, and nations.
- Prayer can do what political option, education, military mind, planning committees cannot. All these are powerless by comparison.

#### **Pray for one another. All of us should be intercessors!**

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