

THE LORD'S FLOCK GROWTH DIGEST

PASTORAL GROWTH SERIES

Prayerlessness (Part 1)

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Part 1: Table Set for Two

Prayer is talking to God, and also letting Him talk to us.

- When you pray, do not be like hypocrites (Mt. 6:5).
- Like exercise, prayer has to be continual; otherwise, you will notice a difference in your stamina.
- We do not realize that on a regular basis, prayerlessness is a sin, just like stealing, killing, gossip, lust.
- As for me, far be it from me to sin against the Lord by ceasing to pray for you and to teach you the good and right way (1 Sam. 12:23).
- Prayerlessness will wreck havoc in the home, in the community, in the church; it will cause problems in marriage. Those in the flesh cannot please God (Rom. 8:8).
- There are temptations everywhere. The enemy, Satan, is a force we cannot see but is always there.
- Prayer is like the alternator of a car; it is like a battery that needs to be recharged. A person who has trouble praying may be thinking "is God hearing my prayer?"
- We should pray "Lord, plug me in you." To remain in His Word, to seek Him, pray to Him, submit our plans to Him.
- Like parents, who want their children to share their plans, thoughts, secrets, God wants us to be plugged to Him always.
- As children of God, sometimes we are afraid to ask Him, and we do not talk to Him.
- God's beautiful promise: if we remain in Him, and His Word remains in us, ask anything, and it shall be given unto us (Jn. 15:7).
- If we become deep in the Word, and if it becomes part of our life, we know the right thing to ask, and we do not ask for the wrong things.
- When we are completely connected to God, we can ask anything. We will not ask for foolish things or anything that is contrary to His will.
- Let my prayer be sent forth before you as incense.
 Keep the door of my lips and watch over my mouth (Ps. 141: 2-3).

- When we wake up and we become very busy to pray, we begin to experience the temptations of the flesh. The evil one will always steal our time for prayer. Procrastination, distractions get in the way and we move prayer for later.
- Prayer is heaven's "company credit card", to requisition things that are needed for living and working effectively as servants of God.
- Prayerless life is to be disobedient to the command of God. The spirit of prayer is commanded and encouraged in the Bible. Call on Him and He will answer. He will give you mighty things (Mt. 7:7).
- Those things God can show us, the eye has not seen, the ear has not heard, and what has not entered the human heart, what God has prepared for those who love Him. God is revealed to us through the spirit (1 Cor. 2:9).
- Many times we pray when we have problems already. Instead, we should make prayer a habit, or a way of life, such that when we miss our morning or evening prayer, we feel incomplete. Learn to kneel and thank God that we were able to sleep and we still woke up.

Table for Two: One seat is for you talking to God, and the other seat is God's, He wants to listen to you, and He also wants to talk to you. He has time for us, no matter how long or where we are. God is always welcoming us. He has no limitations; He can talk to you the whole day.

God will always understand you, you can tell Him everything, what you feel - the pain, joy, what's in your heart. He still answers, despite our shortcomings.

Prayerlessness -

- 1. is a sin against God.
- 2. is to live a life of rebellion. Prayer is not an opportunity, it is a responsibility.
- 3. Prayer is not just monologue; it is a dialogue, we also have to listen to God. Sometimes He does not speak at the moment, but we should be sensitive to His response. Sometimes, God is talking to us through the people we meet.
- 4. Through prayer, God gives us guidance.

Talk and pray to God. He always blesses us.

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