

Pastor Devin's Notes – Sunday, January 13th

CORE STRENGTH:

Prayer Changes Everything

1 Timothy 4:7-8 [KJV]

⁷ But refuse profane and old wives' fables, and **exercise thyself rather unto godliness.** ⁸ For bodily exercise profiteth little: but **godliness is profitable unto all things,** having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come.

The Exercises that you need to **CONSISTENTLY COMMIT** to:

- The 1st “exercise” that we are going to examine more closely is **PRAYER.**

Why should we pray?

- We pray because **INTIMACY** only comes through prayer.
- We pray because **INSIGHT** also comes through prayer.
- We pray because **INTERVENTION** also comes through prayer.

*Dr. Tony Evans defines **PRAYER** as:*

“A believer’s oral or mental communication with God the Father, through the authority of Jesus Christ, with the assistance of the Holy Spirit.”

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- **A BELIEVER'S**

- The prayer that honors **GOD**, and the prayer that God **HONORS** is the prayer of **ONE** who believes.
- Being a believer is a **PREREQUISITE** for prayer.

⁶ *But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must **believe** that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him. – Hebrews 11:6*

²² *And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, **believing**, ye shall receive. – Matthew 21:22*

- **ORAL AND/OR MENTAL COMMUNICATION**

- In prayer, we are not just making requests but we are **COMMUNING**.
- When we are out of **COMMUNION** with God, we are not **COMMUNICATING** to God.

⁴ *Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. – John 15:4*

- **WE PRAY IN THE NAME, OR AUTHORITY, OF THE SON JESUS**

- Jesus promises to submit our prayers to the Father without a "**RETURN TO SENDER**" notification.

¹³ *And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it. – John 14:13-14*

- **WE PRAY WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**

- When we don't know what to pray for, the Holy Spirit assists us by planting desires on our heart.

²⁶ *In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans.²⁷ And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God. – Romans 8:26-27*