

## **The Purpose, Privilege, Practice, Power & Proper Prayer in the Age of Grace**

**The Purpose of Prayer** - is to bring God and His Word into every situation; communing with the Heavenly Father, receiving peace, awareness, while acknowledging our weaknesses, dependency upon Him, reminding ourselves to be strong in the Lord and the power of his might. - Phil 4:6,7; Romans 8:26,27. Yes, prayer changes things - especially us!

**The Privilege of Prayer** - is having continual, instant access and communion with our loving Heavenly Father of whom are all things and to whom are all things; who has revealed his purpose for us in grace, his will for us; to whom we serve, and who has given to us His Holy Spirit;. - Romans 5:1-5; Ephesians 1:1-23. All through His Son -Ephesians 2:18.

**The Practice of Prayer** - is prayer (asking), supplication (petition), intercession (praying for others), giving of thanks (acknowledging God's goodness, blessings, and supply); in short: practicing the presence of God. - Philippians 4:6,7; I Timothy 2:1;

Fortunately prayer is not primarily for the purpose of getting, but for the purpose of giving and to motivate the doing; not always bring what we want, but giving us what we need; not necessarily changing things, but changing us; not in working externally in a circumstance, but empowering Believers through the circumstance; not giving us what we ask; but above what we ask or think; not manipulating the outcome of events, but working in us to become the manifestation of Christ in every event; not in what it gives us, but in what it makes us; it is not primarily a method of getting, but a splendid way of growing.

**The Power of Prayer** - is to be strengthened with might by God's Spirit in the inner man, watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints; God working in you to will and do of his good pleasure; the power of Christ resting on us; and for the peace that passes all understanding keeping our hearts and minds - Ephesians 3:16,20; 6:18; Philippians 2:13; II Corinthians 12:9; Philippians 4:6,7.

**Proper Praying in Grace** - is to continue instant in prayer; pray without ceasing; pray even if you don't know how to pray as you ought; pray for understanding; pray for the ministry of grace; for the Saint's growth, faith, love, hope; let your request be made known unto God; pray according to the will of God for us in grace; pray about anything and everything; pray expecting God to do everything he promised in his revealed Word to us and expect nothing else. When you speak about prayer and God working, speak where the Bible speaks and be silent where the Bible is silent. - Romans 12:12; Colossians 4:2; I Thessalonians 5:17; Romans 8:26,27; Ephesians 1:17,18.

Do we understand how prayer effects others or how every circumstance works out? No! - see Romans 15:30,31; Colossians 4:2-4; II Thessalonians 3:1,2; Philippians 2:27; Philemon 22. But we know in the eternal scheme: *"all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose"* - Romans 8:28

Therein is the key! It is not us always understanding how prayer works, how God responds to every prayer especially in praying for others or results of ministry; but always being thankful in whatever outcome. *"Pray without ceasing. In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you"* - I Thessalonians 5:18