

THE MASTERCRAFT:

“THE POWER OF PRAYER”

SEPT 20, 2020

THE POWER OF PRAYER

TEXTS:

LUKE 18:1 bible teaches us:

“It Is Necessary For Us To Pray Consistently And Never Quit Praying”

1 Thessalonians 5:17-18

¹⁷ Pray Without Ceasing, ¹⁸ Give Thanks In All Circumstances; For This Is The Will Of God In Christ Jesus For You.

Luke 18:1-8 talks about the Parable of the Persistent Widow

18 Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up praying. ² He said: “In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor cared what people thought. ³ And there was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, ‘Grant me justice against my adversary.’

⁴ “For some time he refused. But finally he said to himself, ‘Even though I don’t fear God or care what people think, ⁵ yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she gets justice, so that she won’t eventually come and attack me!’”

⁶ And the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says. ⁷ And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will God keep putting them off? ⁸ I tell you, He will see that they get justice, and quickly.

- **“The diligent hand will rule.” (Prov 12:24) “The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results.” (James 5:16).
These the facts about this widow who persisted in prayers until answer came.**

1 Thessalonians 5:

¹⁷ Pray without ceasing, ¹⁸ give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of god in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹ Do not quench the Spirit (lack of prayer quenches the Spirit). ²⁰ Do not treat prophecies with contempt (don't disregard revelations/ insights you get when you pray) ²¹ but test them all; hold on to what is good, ²² reject every kind of evil. ...²⁴ The one who calls you is faithful, and He will do it.

➤ **So, when we pray, we should always remember that “The one who calls us is faithful, and He will do it” because the desires of the righteous are never forgotten.**

Matthew 22:37-38 Jesus declared the greatest commandment **37**“ ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ **38**This is the first and greatest commandment.

We demonstrate our love through our prayers and giving thanks in all circumstances.

- **Bible says that Jesus came to lay the foundation upon which we are building.**

I CORINTHIANS 3 says...

9We are God's fellow workers; ...As a wise master builder, the foundation has been laid, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it. 11For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. 12Now if anyone builds on this foundation *with* gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, 13each one's work will become clear; ... because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. 14If anyone's work which he has built on *it* endures, he will receive a reward. 15If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.

- **So, Material We Build With Is Measure By How Much We Get God Involved When We Are Building. The More We Get Him Involved, The Fewer Our Spiritual Mistakes because "The Spirit of God leads us unto all truth" – "they led by the Spirit of God are sons of God"**

Brethren, if the foundation has been laid, we need to understand the structure of that foundation before we can build on it successfully. Understanding the structure is reason for prayer and seeking the face of God.

Our building is not completed in one swing. God is interested in every part of the building and even in the use of the building when it is completed. This means that our prayers can never cease. We must pray all the time to find out God's will for our own building and for the use of the building..

You are the builder but you must build the Lord's way and **Avoid using Worldly Wisdom**

1 Corinthians 3 (contd.)

18 Let no one deceive himself. If anyone among you seems to be wise in this age, let him become a fool that he may become wise. 19 For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God.

Proverbs 8 speaks about the wisdom - Jesus Christ:

¹² “I, wisdom, dwell together with **prudence**; I possess knowledge and discretion.

¹³ To fear the LORD is to hate evil; I **hate pride and arrogance**, evil behavior and perverse speech. ¹⁴ Counsel and **sound judgment** are mine; I have **insight**, I have **power**.

➤ **SO, THROUGH DILIGENT PRAYERS, WE HAVE ACCESS TO INSIGHTS, POWER, ETC. ABOVE, WHICH ENABLE US BUILD APPROPRIATELY.**

¹⁵ By me kings reign and rulers issue decrees that are just;

¹⁶ by me princes govern, and nobles—all who rule on earth.

¹⁷ I **love those who love me, and those who seek me find me.**

¹⁸ **With me are riches and honor, enduring wealth and prosperity.**

➤ **SO, IF YOU WANT TO RULE & BE PROSPEROUS, PRAYER IS KEY - ABILITY TO SEEK GOD**

¹⁹ My fruit is better than fine gold; what I yield surpasses choice silver.

²⁰ I **walk in the way of righteousness, along the paths of justice,** ²¹ **bestowing a rich inheritance on those who love me and making their treasuries full.**

➤ **SO, PRAYER IS AN AVENUE FOR US TO PROVE OUR LOVE FOR GOD**

22 “The LORD brought me forth as the first of his works (the foundation for others to build on)”

34 Blessed are those who listen to me, watching daily at my doors, waiting at my doorway.

35 For those who find me find life and receive favor from the LORD.

36 But those who fail to find me harm themselves...”

SO, DILIGENT PRAYER IS KEY. .. God call it “watching daily at my doors, waiting at my doorway” to find God.

In conclusion, if we must build on earth, it is just better and safer to build according to the rules. According to the foundation that God has already laid.

So, let us spend time in prayers to find out the structure of our foundation, how God wants us to build on the foundation and how He wants us to use the building when it is finished.

If you are in career, for instance, God has already laid foundation for you in a particular area, go to Him in prayer and continue to work with the Holy Spirit to explore and harness that career path and when the fruit begin to come, ask God how you can make impact with the fruit.

In what ever area you are, the foundation has already been laid.

Let us commit to pray without ceasing and give thanks always

God Bless You