

PRAYER

WHY DOES PRAYER SOMETIMES SEEM FUTILE AND TEDIOUS?

By Mike Burnham

How little we know about prayer! Can we guarantee the outcome of an event by praying? Do the prayers of many count for more than the prayers of few? Does intercession really change the mind of God? How do we know that the requests we take before the throne of God are in his will?

God's will is that we pray, Luke 18:1. Although the outcome of our prayers is never totally predictable, we can depend upon an outcome.

The only perfect man who ever lived felt a continuous need to pray. Prayer is one person sharing his heart with the heavenly father.

In Mark 1:32-39 We see that after a very busy day in which Jesus had healed many people long after dark, Jesus rose early in the morning on the next day to pray...v-35. Prayer came before the new day's business. Jesus knew that if he did not plan his day others would plan it for him!

Matthew 14:22-23. Jesus made a special effort to find an opportunity to pray.

Luke 6:12...Time was ignored. We all need to forget about time once in a while when we sit down to talk to our Heavenly Father. But it seems to be a commodity that we are in short supply of and yet it's in great demand.

What would your life be like if you never prayed? Are you tempted to conclude that your life would be no different if you never prayed again?

Without prayer, you would be rejecting the divinely ordained sign of human dependence. That is why Paul encourages us to pray without ceasing (1 Thessalonians 5:17). Prayer is telling God that without him we can do nothing that really matters.

Without prayer, Christianity would cease to be a personal relationship. Prayer is "family talk." if the lord is not real and personal to you maybe prayer is the main problem.