



Continual Prayer

“Pray without ceasing...” (1 Thessalonians 5:17).

Examples in the Gospels

The Unjust Judge (Luke 18:1-8)

1. Faith does not need to approach God more than once.
2. The parables of Luke show more contrast than comparison.
 - a. Luke tells of an unjust steward (Ch. 16).
 - b. He was called wise in the world’s ways.
3. If we would petition an unjust judge, why wouldn’t we petition a loving God Who loves and takes care of His own?
4. Understand the parable of the unjust judge.
 - a. The widow petitioned to change the judge.
 - b. We do not petition God to change Him.
 - c. Prayer changes us – not God.
 - d. God loves us and will speedily answer.

Jesus Prayed for a Blind Man Twice (Mark 8)

1. The man was weak in faith.
2. When the man partially saw, his faith grew.
3. Jesus prayed again, and the man saw clearly.
4. It would be fine to add to a first prayer if you have increased and grown in faith.

There is More Than One Type of Prayer

1. You do not pray again as if you have never prayed at all.
 - a. There are other types of prayer, not just for a specific need.
 - b. The other types of prayer are for our benefit and God’s blessing.
 - c. I need the prayer, the constant attention to His promises and the exercise of faith.
2. Even the prayer of faith can be prayed more than one time as faith increases. You do not pray over again, but in addition to the prayer you began with.
3. Prayer is more than just making request:
 - a. The true definition of prayer is communion or communication with God.
 - b. All forms of communion with God can be considered prayer:
 1. Praise
 2. Thanksgiving

3. Worship
 4. Fellowship
 5. Meditation on the word
4. In this way, prayer is continual.

“Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer (request) and supplication (binding yourself to God – worship), with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God.” (Philippians 4:6)

New Testament Examples of Continual Prayer

1. The church for Peter when he was in prison (Acts 12:5).
 - a. They may not have known exactly how to pray.
 - b. They might have prayed in tongues for revelation.
2. Paul’s prayer for the saints at Rome (Romans 1:9).
 - a. This was not for one need, but many.
 - b. Their growth brought more prayers for more growth.
3. Paul’s thanksgiving for the saints at Thessalonica (1 Thessalonians 2:13).
4. Praying for our nation and leaders (1 Timothy 2:1-6).
 - a. Our national problems are ongoing.
 - b. Our prayers should be without ceasing.
 - c. We should pray, intercede, and give thanks.
5. Paul’s prayer over Timothy, his spiritual son (2 Timothy 1:3).

How Do You Pray Continually?

1. Pray in faith the first time.
2. Give thanks to God, at every remembrance, that your need has been met.
3. Draw closer to God through worship.
4. Pray again if you have increased in faith and trust in God.
5. Listen for God’s leading to be obedient.
6. If you are in church service and prayer is given – go and receive added agreement.
7. If you are in a place where the gifts of the Spirit are in manifestation, go and receive the anointing of the Holy Spirit.