

War Room - 1

Jon Sherman, Lead Pastor
"Prayer: A Powerful Weapon" -Eph. 6:10-18
8.30.2015

WHAT?: What is prayer?

In "petition", we make requests of God; in "prayer", God makes requests of us.

Dr. Ralph Martin, in his book *The Fulfillment of All Desire*, says, "Prayer is, at root, simply paying attention to God" (p. 121).

WHEN?: When should I pray?

1 Thess. 5:16-18, Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

HOW?: How should I pray?

In the Spirit

Rom. 8: 26-27, *In the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words; and He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.*

With this in view (i.e. vv.10-17)

On the alert

Psalm 5:3, *In the morning, O Lord, You will hear my voice; In the morning I will order my prayer to You and eagerly watch.*

With all perseverance

Luke 18:1, Now He was telling them a parable to show that at all times they ought to pray and not to lose heart...

For all the saints

Heb. 13:3, *Continue to remember those in prison as if you were together with them in prison, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering.*

Connection Group Questions

Taken from the sermon on August 30, 2015

War Room: Prayer: A Powerful Weapon-Ephesians 6:10-18

■ Questions for “Group Discussion”

- Where is your favorite place to pray and why?
- Read 1 Thes. 5:16-18. Is it possible to always rejoice & be thankful? Pray without ceasing?
- Spend time in prayer as a group following the A.C.T.S. Model (adoration/confession/thanksgiving/supplication)

■ Questions for “Personal Growth”

- **Monday: The forces against us...** Please read Ephesians 6:10-18. As referenced in verse 10, how would you describe the difference between “strength” and “might”? Think of might as a “reservoir of strength” (picture strong muscles) and power as the “exercise of that might” (using that muscle to move or lift something). God has given you great reservoirs of “might” which can be realized as “power” in your life, but it requires action on your part. Are you actively tapping into God’s strength everyday? How do we do that?
- **Tuesday: Praying in the Spirit...** Please re-read Ephesians 6:10-18, focusing now on v.18. What does it mean to “pray in the Spirit”? Now please read Romans 8:26-27. How does the Holy Spirit intercede on our behalf in our prayers? When you pray, do you find yourself letting God know what your needs are or asking Him what His will is? Spend some time in prayer today – seeking His will and taking the time to listen and let the Spirit intercede for you.
- **Wednesday: How often should we pray?** Along with our primary passage, please turn to 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 and Romans 1:8-10. How often are we to pray? Do you communicate with the Lord throughout your day? Try “tuning in” to God in most every circumstance you encounter today! Then, try it again tomorrow and for the rest of the week. Record how doing so affects you. Praise God that He is always with you and available to you every moment of every day!
- **Thursday: The power of prayer...** Please read 1 Timothy 2:1 and list the different types, or parts of, prayer. Now please turn to Genesis 18:20-33; James 5:16-18; and 1 Kings 18:41-16. What is “intercessory” prayer? How is intercession different from other types of prayer? (see also Matthew 18:19-20 and James 5:13-16). What does James 5:16 teach you about the power of prayer?
- **Friday: Rejoicing in gratitude...** Do you take notice of when God answers your prayers? Please read Romans 8:28; Ephesians 5:20; 1 Thessalonians 5:18; Hebrews 12:28; and James 1:17. As you pray continually, are you expressing your gratitude to Him without ceasing? Consider keeping a journal of your prayers, noting how God works things together for your good in all circumstances.