

Lord, Teach Us to Pray

Chapter 20 – The Word of God

Park Plaza Brookside * Fireside Room

April 17, 2016

Today's Objectives

- Keep our eyes on Jesus
- Prick our hearts
- Encourage one another to LOVE God's Word

Reminder

- Prayers have an eternal power
- Jesus prayed for us
- Parents and Grandparents prayed for us
 - G.W. McCluskey – Grandfather of James Dobson (Founder of Focus on the Family)
 - <http://drjamesdobson.org/Solid-Answers/Answers?a=1c606813-7d7d-4fd2-8988-143ce61c9af9>
- Those prayers are still effective

What Should We Say When We Pray?

- Impromptu or Extemporaneous Prayers
- Prepared Prayers (i.e. researched, studied, written down, and recited)
- Memorized Prayers (“Now I lay me down to sleep, ...”)
- Prayers using the “Word of God”

Pray the “Word of God”

- Most common example: The Lord’s Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13 KJV)

“Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.”

Why Use the “Word of God”?

- Hebrews 4:12 (NIV)

For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

Why Use the “Word of God”?

- Ephesians 6:10-18 (NIV)

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

Why Use the “Word of God”?

- Ephesians 6:10-18 (NIV)

Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Why Use the “Word of God”?

- Ephesians 6:10-18 (NIV)

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.

Parts of a Sword

- Hilt (everything that is not the blade)
 - Pommel – counter weight to the blade
 - Handle – the part held by the fencer
 - Bell Guard – protects the hand
- Blade
 - Tang – part of the blade inside the handle
 - Forte – the strongest part of the blade (closest to the hilt)
 - Middle- transition area between the forte and the foible
 - Foible – the weakest part of the blade

Why Use the “Word of God”?

- The “Word of God” is ALIVE
- The “Word of God” is ACTIVE
- The “Word of God” is SHARP
- The “Word of God” is used for OFFENSE - ATTACK
- The “Word of God” is used for DEFENSE – PARRY

Why Use the “Word of God”?

- Jesus did!
- The story is told in Matthew 4:1-11, Luke 4:1-13, and mentioned in Mark
- After Jesus was baptized, and fasted for 40 days
- Tempted by Satan (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Temptation_of_Christ)
 - Turn stones into bread
 - Jump from the top of the temple
 - Bow down & worship Satan

Why Use the “Word of God”?

- When Satan ATTACKED, Jesus PARRIED with the “Word of God”
- Turn stones into bread – Matthew 4:3-4 (NIV) and Deuteronomy 8:3

Jesus answered, **“It is written: ‘Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’ ”**

Why Use the “Word of God”?

- When Satan ATTACKED, Jesus PARRIED with the “Word of God”
- Jump from the top of the temple – Matthew 4:5-7 (NIV) and Deuteronomy 6:16

Jesus answered him, **“It is also written: ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’ ”**

Why Use the “Word of God”?

- When Satan ATTACKED, Jesus PARRIED with the “Word of God”
- Bow down & worship Satan – Matthew 4:8-10 (NIV) and Deuteronomy 6:13

Jesus said to him, **“Away from me, Satan! For it is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.’ ”**

Example: Why Use the “Word of God”?

- One vs. One Pray the “Word of God” by yourself
- One vs. Many Pray the “Word of God” WITH others
- Many vs. Many Pray the “Word of God” FOR others

Fencing Tip #1

- Get a Sword

Fencing Tip #2

- Learn How to Hold Your Sword

Fencing Tip #3

- Learn How to Use Your Sword

Pray for Your Family

- Joshua 24:15

But if serving the Lord seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. **But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.**”

Pray for Your Wife

- Proverbs 31:10-31

A wife of noble character who can find? She is worth far more than rubies.

Her husband has full confidence in her and lacks nothing of value.

She brings him good, not harm, all the days of her life.

She selects wool and flax and works with eager hands.

She is like the merchant ships, bringing her food from afar.

Pray for Your Wife

- Proverbs 31:10-31

She gets up while it is still night; she provides food for her family and portions for her female servants.

She considers a field and buys it; out of her earnings she plants a vineyard.

She sets about her work vigorously; her arms are strong for her tasks.

She sees that her trading is profitable, and her lamp does not go out at night.

Pray for Your Wife

- Proverbs 31:10-31

In her hand she holds the distaff and grasps the spindle with her fingers.

She opens her arms to the poor and extends her hands to the needy.

When it snows, she has no fear for her household; for all of them are clothed in scarlet.

She makes coverings for her bed; she is clothed in fine linen and purple.

Pray for Your Wife

- Proverbs 31:10-31

Her husband is respected at the city gate, where he takes his seat among the elders of the land.

She makes linen garments and sells them, and supplies the merchants with sashes.

She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come.

She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue.

Pray for Your Wife

- Proverbs 31:10-31

She watches over the affairs of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness.

Her children arise and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her:

“Many women do noble things, but you surpass them all.”

Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.

Pray for Your Wife

- Proverbs 31:10-31

Honor her for all that her hands have done, and let her works bring her praise at the city gate.

Pray for Protection

- Job 1:8-10 - Hedge of Protection (<https://youtu.be/wNactpC9aQ4>)

Then the Lord said to Satan, “Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one on earth like him; he is blameless and upright, a man who fears God and shuns evil.”

“Does Job fear God for nothing?” Satan replied. **“Have you not put a hedge around him and his household and everything he has?** You have blessed the work of his hands, so that his flocks and herds are spread throughout the land.

Pray for Political & Spirituals Leaders

- 1 Timothy 2:1-4

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

Pray for our Troops

- Psalm 91
- Almost 100 years ago, during World War I, the 91st Infantry Brigade of the U. S. Expeditionary Army was preparing to enter combat in Europe. Because their commander was a devout Christian, he assembled his men and gave each of them a little card on which was printed the 91st Psalm, the same number Psalm as their brigade. They agreed to recite that Psalm daily. After they had begun praying the Psalm, the 91st Brigade was engaged in three of the bloodiest battles of World War I — Chateau Thierry, Belle Wood and the Argonne. Other American units that fought in the same battles had up to 90 percent casualties, but the 91st Brigade did not suffer a single combat-related casualty.

What are Your Favorite “Prayer” Passages?

Bonus Quote - Prayer

- “The greatest tragedy of life is not unanswered prayer, but unoffered prayer.”

– FB Meyer

Continue to Pray for Us!



- Clint Hill
- Chris Mayfield
- Reece Morrel Jr.

Closing Prayer

- Thank You, Lord, for Your Word. Thank You for not leaving us here to guess what You're like or what You've promised to do. We pray You'd not only fashion Your Word in our minds, but also use it to direct our hands and feet to serve You, obey You, and stay clean-hearted before You. May we truly love Your Word and cling to it as our lifeline to Your truth, love, and wisdom. In the name of Jesus, Amen.