

Sermon Quotes
August 19, 2007
Living in the Good of the Gospel
Learning From Jesus How To Pray Pt. 2

*“God is a God who hides Himself to the carnal eye. As long as, in our worship of God, we are chiefly occupied with our own thoughts and concerns, we shall not meet Him who is Spirit, the unseen One. But to the man who withdraws himself from all that is of the world, and prepares to wait upon God alone, **the Father will reveal Himself**. To the one who gives up and shuts out the world, and the life of the world, and surrenders himself to be led by Christ into the secret of God’s presence, the light of the Father’s love will rise upon him. And so we are taught, at the very beginning of our search after the secret of effective prayer, to remember that **it is in the quiet place, where we are alone** with the Father, that we shall learn to pray properly. ‘The Father who is in secret’...in these words Jesus teaches us where He is waiting for us, where He is always to be found.”*

—Andrew Murray

Point #1 – (Vs. 5) We don’t need to worry when we pray about using just the right words or fancy-sounding words to impress God.

Point # 2 (Vs. 6) Jesus tells us that when we pray, the Father wants us to draw near to Him in a Quiet Time and a Quiet Place.

Point # 3 (Vs. 7-8) Jesus tells us the Father is looking for sincere expressions from the heart, not memorized prayers repeated over and over again.

Point # 4 (Vs. 9-13) In the “Our Father” the Lord is giving us a pattern for Quiet Time Prayer, not the exact words to pray.

Psalms 100:4 “Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him and bless his name!”

“Now what is the food for the inner man...but the Word of God: and here again not the simple reading of the Word of God, so that it only passes through our minds, just as water runs through a pipe, but considering what we read, pondering over it, and applying it to our hearts...”

—George Mueller

*“You are retired for your private devotions; you have opened the Bible, and you begin to read. Now, do not be satisfied with merely reading through a chapter. Some people thoughtlessly read through two or three chapters...It is always better to read a little and digest it, than it is to read much and then think you have done a good thing by merely reading the letter of the word. For you might as well read the alphabet backwards and forwards, as read a chapter of Scripture, **unless you meditate** upon it, and **seek to comprehend its meaning**. The business of the believer with his Bible open is to pray, ‘Lord, give me the meaning and spirit of your Word, while it lies open before me; apply your Word with power to my soul...”*

—Charles Spurgeon

Philippians 4:8 “Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, **think about these things.**”

The Kingdom of God is basically the rule and reign of God, the authority of God. In this age, it exists primarily **in the hearts of those who follow Christ**, who submit to the authority of God's rule and reign in their lives. Those who do, experience the benefits of God's kingdom now. The benefits of His mercy, wisdom, power and favor extend over those who humbly bow to His authority and **ask for His kingdom to come each day** and rule over their lives.

Luke 9:23 And he said to all, “If anyone would come after me (follow me), let him deny himself and **take up his cross daily** and follow me.”