

Sermon Quotes
July 8, 2007
Living in the Good of the Gospel
Relating To God as Jesus Did

Point # 1 – One main purpose of a daily Quiet Time is to help us break free from Self-Sufficiency and to cultivate a Childlike Dependence on God.

“How we begin our morning so often sets the tone for the day. I’m convinced that the most decisive time of our day is very often our first waking moments, because they color everything to come. The first daily item from my list is this: Begin your day by acknowledging your dependence upon God and your need for God...From the moment I awake, I’ve learned to make statements to God about my dependence on Him, and in this way I’m humbling myself before God.”

—CJ Mahaney

“The moment you wake up each morning, all your wishes and hopes for the day rush at you like wild animals. And the first job each morning consists in shoving it all back; in listening to that other voice, taking that other point of view, letting that other, larger, stronger, quieter life come flowing in.”

—CS Lewis

“Lord, teach us to pray. Yes, to pray. This is what we need to be taught. Though in its beginnings prayer is so simple that the feeblest child can pray, yet it is at the same time the highest and holiest work to which man can rise. It is fellowship with the Unseen and Most Holy One. The powers of the eternal world have been placed at its disposal. It is...the channel of all blessings, the secret of power and life. Not only for ourselves, but for others, for the Church, for the world; it is to prayer that God has given the right to take hold of Him and His strength. And for this blessed work, how lazy and unfit we are. It is only the Spirit of God who can enable us to do it right...At first there is no work that appears so simple; later on, none that is more difficult; and the confession is forced from us: 'We do not know how to pray as we ought.' It is true we have God’s Word, with its clear and sure promises; but sin has so darkened our mind, that we do not always know how to apply the Word. In spiritual things we do not always seek the most needful things...All this must be learned.”

—Andrew Murray

Point # 2 - The Goal of Sanctification is to make us more like Christ, and Christ lived in a day-by-day childlike, dependence on the Father.

“‘Lord, teach us to pray.’ None can teach us like Jesus; therefore we call on Him...A pupil needs a teacher who knows his work, who has the gift of teaching, who in patience and love will descend to the pupil’s needs. Thanks be to God! Jesus is all this and much more. He knows what prayer is. It is Jesus, praying Himself, who teaches us to pray...He learned amidst the trials and tears of His earthly life. In heaven it is still His beloved work...Nothing delights Him more than to find those whom He can take with Him into the Father’s presence, whom He can clothe with power to pray down God’s blessing on those around them, whom He can train to be His fellow-workers in the intercession by which His kingdom is revealed on earth.

By His Holy Spirit, He has access to our heart, and teaches us to pray by showing us the sin that hinders the prayer, or by giving us the assurance that we please God. He teaches, by giving not only thoughts of what to ask or how to ask, but by breathing within us the very spirit of prayer, by living within us as the Great Intercessor...Jesus never taught His disciples how to preach, only how to pray. He did not speak much of what was needed to preach well, but much of what is needed to pray well. To know how to speak to God is far more valuable than knowing how to speak to man.”

—Andrew Murray