

**WCBC WORSHIP SERVICE – FEBRUARY 4, 2018**

**TOPIC:** BUILDING OURSELVES UP!

Sermon 3: *By Believing In The Power of Prayer!*

**TEXT:** Matthew 6:5-15; Luke 18:1

**INTRO:** "A person who is a stranger to prayer...!"

**I. WHAT IS PRAYER? Matthew 7:7**

Prayer, simply defined, is "asking and receiving." It has four components:

- A** - doration
- C** - onfession (Psalm 66:18)
- T** - hanksgiving
- S** - upplication

**II. WHY PRAY?: Matthew 6:8**

1. Because prayer is imperative - Luke 18:1
2. Because there is joy in prayer - John 16:24
3. Because prayer will deliver us out of all our troubles - Psalm 34:6
4. Because prayer is channel of power - Jer.33:3
  - Jeremiah 33:3 - God's Phone Number!
5. Because it is a sin NOT to pray - I Sam. 12:23
6. Because of Jesus' example - Luke 5:16

**III. "WHEN YOU PRAY": Matthew 6:5-7**

1. We should not be hypocritical - v.5
2. We should prefer to do it in private - v.6
3. We should not use "babbling" words - v.7
  - Rosary!

**IV. "HOW YOU SHOULD PRAY": Matthew 6:9-13**

1. We are to pray to "Our Father" (Father-child relationship) "in Heaven," and in Jesus' name - v.9 cf. John 14:13-14
2. We are to pray for His will to be done in everything - v.10
3. We are to pray for our daily needs - v.11
4. We are to pray for forgiveness, and practice forgiving others - v.12 cf. vv. 14-15; 5:22-24
5. We are to pray for the Lord's leading, and deliverance

from the evil one, i.e., Satan himself -v.13 cf. I Peter 5:8

**CONCLUSION:** Matthew 11:28-30!

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**How Praying Hyde Prayed!**

Dr. Wilbur Chapman wrote to a friend: "I have learned some great lessons concerning prayer. At one of our missions in England, the audience was exceedingly small; but I received a note saying that an American missionary was going to pray for God's blessing down on our work. He was known as Praying Hyde! Almost instantly, the tide turned. The hall became packed, and at my first invitation, fifty men accepted Christ as their Saviour. As we were leaving, I said, "Mr. Hyde, I want you to pray for me."

He came to my room, turned the key in the door, and dropped on his knees, and waited five minutes without a single syllable coming from his lips. I could hear my own heart thumping, and his beating. I felt hot tears running down my face. I knew I was with God! Then, with upturned face down while the tears were streaming, he said, "O God." Then for five minutes at least he was still again; and then, when he knew that he was talking with God, there came from the depths of his heart such petitions for me as I had never heard before. I rose from my knees to know what real prayer was. We believe that prayer is mighty, and we believe it as we never did before!" - Gospel Herald

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**Verse(s) For Today**

*"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus!" - Philippians 4:6-7*

**Food For Thought**

Mrs. Billy Graham told an audience of Minneapolis women many years ago: "God has not always answered my prayers. If He had, I would have married the wrong man --- several times!" - *Religious News Service*

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