**The Quiet Hour #8**

**Praying Always**

**Ephesians 6:18**

 There is no doubt that the Apostle Paul was a great preacher, missionary, church planter, and author of Scripture. Yet the one thing that made him all the other things was his prayer life. To him, prayer was more than just an occasional “word of prayer” or even a regular prayer time – it was his life, a life of prayer. Pay careful attention to these statements Paul made, and you will understand the high priority of prayer in Paul’s own life:

* *“…\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ instant in prayer…”* (Rom. 12:12)
* *“Praying \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with all prayer and supplication…”* (Eph. 6:18)
* *“\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in prayer…”* (Col. 4:2)
* *“Pray \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.”* (I Thess. 5:17)

Needless to say, Paul recognized that prayer was not just something he would live with, but rather it was something he couldn’t live without! During this **Quiet Hour** you will be reading through 5 prayers that Paul recorded in his Epistles. As you read through and pray through his prayers, there are 5 specific requests on which you will be focusing. As you talk to the Lord, seek to personalize these prayer requests, making them your own.

 In the New Testament, we know that Paul is the human author of at least thirteen books. He opens eight of them by reassuring his readers of his prayers in their behalf. Paul recognized that it is great privilege **to speak to others about God**. He also knew that it was a great privilege **to talk to God about others**.

 As your work through these prayers, begin by marking them in your Bible. Then highlight the request that is emphasized. Think through and pray through the request, adding your own personal perspective as to why that request is important to you.

**1**

**Prayer #1** – Eph. 1:15-19

**Request** – A thorough **comprehension** of all that is included in a

 relationship with Christ.

1. Read through the prayer and highlight the phrase:

***“…that ye may know…”*** (v. 18)

2. In verses 18 and 19, what 3 things are to be known?

 (Hint: each begins with the word *“what”*)

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3. In your own words, express in a prayer something else that you need to learn and know about Christ and your relationship to Him.

4. Is there another request in this prayer that you need to make your own?

Pray it to God right now.

**Prayer #2** – Eph. 3:14-19

**Request** – An expanded **capacity** for all that can be experienced in a

 relationship with Christ.

1. Read through the prayer and highlight the phrase

***“…that ye might be filled with all the fullness of God.”*** (v. 19)

2. What are some of the things that have occupied your life that have crowded the Lord out of His rightful place in your life? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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3. In your own words, communicate to God that you do not just want Him to be just something, but everything in your life.

4. Is there another request in this prayer that you need to make your own?

Pray it to God right now.

**2**

**Prayer #3** – Phil. 1:9-11

**Request** – A total **consecration** of all that is demanded in a

 relationship with Christ.

1. Read through the prayer and highlight the phrase:

***“…that ye may be sincere and without offense…”*** (v. 10)

2. Are there areas of your life where you tend to be hypocritical by appearing to be something that you really are not? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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3. In your own words, tell the Lord of your desire to be genuine and authentic in your surrender to Him no matter what the cost.

4. Is there another request in this prayer that you need to make your own?

Pray it to God right now.

**Prayer #4** – Col. 1:9-12

**Request** – A personal **commitment** to all that is included in a

 relationship with Christ.

1. Read through the prayer and highlight the phrase:

***“…that ye might be filled with the knowledge of His will”*** (v. 9)

2. Are there areas of your life where it has been hard to accept and follow God’s will for your life? Make a list. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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3. In your own words, let the Lord know that you want to know and do His will for your life in all things and at all times.

4. Is there another request in this prayer that you need to make your own?

Pray it to God right now.

**3**

**Prayer #5** – II Thess. 1:11-12

**Request** – A glorious **communication** of all that is displayed in a

 relationship with Christ.

1. Read through the prayer and highlight the phrase:

***“…that the name of the Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified…”*** (v. 12)

2. What are some of the areas where you need to represent Christ better both in and through your life? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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3. In your own words, determine before the Lord that you will show His goodness and greatness as you represent Him before others.

4. Is there another request in this prayer that you need to make your own?

Pray it to God right now.

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 As you have meditated upon and prayed through these five prayers of Paul, you have been reminded of the need to pray
“spiritually and scripturally”. There is certainly a place for requests in the realm of physical, material, and financial needs. It is important however, that you do not limit your praying only to these areas. Seek to develop your own prayer life – not just your prayer time.

“I will therefore that men pray everywhere,

 lifting up holy hands,

without wrath and doubting.”

**I Tim. 2:8**

(Written by the Apostle Paul)

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