

Living by His PRAYER & our personal growth

WORD



There are certain disciplines in the life of every believer, whether you are just born again or have been part of the body of Christ for decades that are of utmost importance.

There is this principle that should never be neglected; something that comes full circle in our life: this thing is Prayer.

The act of prayer is, in reality taking us into His presence for His personal attention. Prayer is one of the most vital parts to anyone's life or ministry. I am not going to teach on the different kinds of prayer, but focus on the results that prayer brings to our life and situations.

Without making prayer some form of priority in our life, we will overlook the necessity to live a sober, righteous, and godly life in this present world. (**Titus 2:12**) As one brother put it, "pray or be preyed upon".

I'm of the opinion that if you fall short in fellowship with people, it's because we fall short in our relationship with God. Read **Matthew 7:21-23**. Notice **verse 23** "and then I will declare to them, I never knew you; depart from me you who practice lawlessness!"

Notice the phrase "I never knew you". Let's look at two Greek words for this word "knew". This statement is also translated "knowledge". It is the word **ginosko**. It frequently suggests inception or progress in knowledge, while the other word used for "knew" is the word **oida**, which suggests fullness of knowledge. (**John 8:55**)

The verse in **Matt 7:23**; "I never knew you" (**ginosko**) suggests "I have never been in an approving connection with you". He was not saying that you stand in **no** relation to me, as in **Matt 25:12**. What this confirms is there is genuine importance to prayer and what it can do for us if our fellowship; or may I say, our prayer life is right with Him.

Our prayers are a privilege. God wants to co-mingle with us. Notice in **Matthew 7**, Jesus is describing a situation that came about as the result of **Matthew 6:9-15** from the example of "the Lord's prayer". From **Matthew 6:16-7:1-29**, Jesus covers all the issues that are necessary to have a successful prayer life; to bring His kingdom on earth: to fulfill His will here on earth. Jesus was telling them clearly that you can get results from your prayer life.

In **Matthew 7:21-27** they were not getting the results they needed to keep their house from being destroyed by the storms of life. Why? They were not allowing God to make necessary changes

on the inside of them, in character and in heart. **Matthew 6:12 & 13 in the Greek** says, "Forgive us our debts as we forgave our debtors and not bring us into trial through evil, but rescue us from evil". Prayer works first in our character, then correcting behavior, un-disciplined or unchecked habits, wrong judgment calls, and financial pressures.

It also helps us to find direction to where we belong and discernment for difficult personality types. Prayer bonds us to the Lord and to people. It builds sensitivity in our heart to love; it builds the check in our spirit to follow His spirit, to exercise redemptive authority, and builds our most holy faith. Prayer also enables us to deal with the issues of fear, discernment, special enlightenment and helps us find proper season and timing.

Please take time to read Matthew 6 and 7

Both chapters center their context in the meaning of the Lord Jesus' instruction for prayer. I wish I had time to break it all down, but recognize, prayer is what helps you to truly get to know Him and His heart. Without it, you can guarantee many of these significant values will be lacking or absent from your life.

Keep Praying,

Pastor Jann

BASIC INFO

SERVICE TIMES

Sunday Morning **10:30 AM** Wednesday Evening **7:00 PM**

CONTACT

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SOCIAL

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Easter is April 1st this year! Invite someone to come with you to church for the Easter Service.

By His Word Christian Center
P.O. Box 110608
Tacoma WA 98411



UPCOMING EVENTS

- Dept. Head MTG** | Monday, Mar. 5th @ 6:30 PM
- Men's Breakfast** | Saturday, Mar. 10th @ 8:30 AM in GRC
- Women's Bible Study** | Tuesday's @ 10 AM in the GRC
- STRESS Word Connection Series** | Starts March 11th
- Daylight Savings Time - Spring Forward** | March 11th
- Easter Service** | Sunday, April 1st @ 10:30 AM
- \$18 - Women's Tea-The Joy of Spring** | Saturday, April 28th @ 11 AM in the GRC - LIMITED SEATING

FLOURISH
GENERATION MINISTRIES

Cultivate: Join the team and make Cultivate something amazing that YOU create!
Cultivate Youth meets Wednesday @7pm
Junior High Vines meets Sunday @10:30am

Grow Kids: Center Stage Learn the heart of worshipping God. Make a joyful noise!

EASTER EGG HUNT Ages: Toddler-5th Grade right after Easter Morning Service!