

## Session Two:

### Pray Daily

#### I) Introduction

- A) Today I am continuing with the second part of an eight part series called "Forerunner 101." This is a series of messages calling people to partner with the Holy Spirit in seven practical ways (*praying daily, fasting weekly, doing justly, giving extravagantly, living holy, leading diligently and speaking boldly*). Today I am going to talk about praying daily.
- B) As we seek to pray daily, there are several key factors that will help sustain a daily prayer life over the decades. The two things I am going to do today is first cover some foundational principles and secondly cover some practical ways to pray daily.

#### II) Three Foundational Facets Of Praying Daily

##### A) Intimacy With God

- 1) Most Christians see and feel the need to develop a life in prayer, but over time lose sight of this being a part of their spiritual disciplines.
- 2) The foundation of our prayer life must be connected to a right view of God. Many people's wrong view of God empowers them in their struggle to spend time with Him. But when our view of God is right we long to be with Him (**Revelation 4**).
  - (i) **Romans 8:15-16** *"For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out Abba Father. The Spirit Himself bear witness with our spirit that we are children of God."*
- 3) It seems more common in the Church to see people struggling with the spirit of rejection than enjoying Spirit of adoption. This must be broken off our lives, not in a prayer line, but in a persistent fight to experience the love of God. **1. Feeling 2. Language 3. Experience**
- 4) **Luke 15** tells us that it's possible to live in our Father's house, working for Him but never connect with Him in an intimate way and posses improper views of Him.
- 5) One of the primary ways that we grow in intimacy with Jesus is through the Word of God. Many people in the Church are citizens of heaven, but their spiritually sick, board and disconnected from God. The thing that will help them the most is the primary thing they avoid, the Bible.
  - (i) **John 5:39** *"You search the scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me."*

##### B) Praying Daily For Justice And Revival

- 1) Another facet of prayer is prayer that releases His justice into the earth (**Luke 18**).

## *“Seven Values Of A Forerunner”*

- 2) It's common to think that God will waive His hand over the earth and it will either disappear, or be converted but this will never happen. God always works through people, in partnership with them and never without them.
- 3) Jesus' physical return to the planet will result from intercession (**Mat. 23:39; 2<sup>nd</sup> Peter 3:12; Rev. 5:8; 8:3-5, 22:17**).
- 4) Our intercession is sustained when we know that God hears us. We struggle staying faithful in prayer when we feel that God doesn't hear us.

### C) **Praying For The Sick**

- 1) The Bible commands us to pray for the sick (**Mat. 10:8; Mk. 16:17; Jam. 5:14-15**) and this is a commandment not an option. The Kingdom that Jesus delivered to us includes praying for the sick.
- 2) God releases power over the sick when His word is declared. If we don't declare His word over the sick then none get healed. But if we declare His word, people get healed.
  - (i) **Mark 16:15,20** *“Go into all the world and preach the Gospel...and they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the Word through the accompanying signs.”*

## III) **Three Practical Facets Of Praying Daily**

### A) **The Tension In The Kingdom**

- 1) Today and tomorrow are connected in the heart of God. Many talk about a future day of glory and forget today, and many only talk about the glory today and forget the future days.
  - (i) **Luke 16:10** *“He who is faithful in what is least is also faithful in what is much, and he who is unjust in what is least is unjust also in much.”* What you do with a little is what you will do with a lot.
- 2) We pray for the sick today, believing God will heal them, but we also contend for more tomorrow. We do both and not either or!

### B) **Prayer That Protects Us From Burnout**

- 1) Many become burnout spiritually and equate it with serving others, but I believe it's more connected with the loss of our spiritual disciplines. Without a life of prayer Burnout is evitable after years of serving people.
- 2) Prayer and Bible reading energizes our hearts and gives us a lifeline in the midst of serving.

### C) **Making A Commitment To Pray Daily**

- 1) Part of our prayerlessness in the Church is that our culture has become busier and busier and louder and louder. **1. Make time 2. Keep it holy like an appointment with God.** Mk. 1:35