



Grace Life Church
of Dallas

The doctrines of grace, the life of the Spirit, to the glory of God

Colossians 4:2

Devote Yourselves to Prayer

All Bible Verses are in the ESV Version (unless noted)

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Colossians 4:2

Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. ESV

Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with an attitude of thanksgiving NASB

Continue steadfastly in prayer/Devote yourselves to prayer

Courageously persistent in prayer, holding fast to and not letting go

- God does not want us to give up in prayer (quit) but rather persevere (be devoted to)
- We are dependent upon God, and when we forget He reminds us through trials, tribulation, & suffering
- And Lord willing, these things reveal our weakness and draw us to His grace through continual steadfast prayer

Luke 11:5-10

*And he said to them, “Which of you who has a friend will go to him at midnight and say to him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves, 6 for a friend of mine has arrived on a journey, and I have nothing to set before him’; 7 and he will answer from within, ‘Do not bother me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed. I cannot get up and give you anything’? 8 I tell you, though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet **because of his impudence** he will rise and give him whatever he needs. 9 And I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. 10 For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. 11 What father among you, if his son asks for a fish, will instead of a fish give him a serpent; 12 or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? 13 If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”*

- In the sermon I used the impudence saying it pertains to persistence but it is actually pertaining to a shameless approach (a negative respecting)

Luke 18:1-8

The Parable of the Persistent Widow

18 And he told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart. 2 He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor respected man. 3 And there was a widow in that city who kept coming to him and saying, 'Give me justice against my adversary.' 4 For a while he refused, but afterward he said to himself, 'Though I neither fear God nor respect man, 5 yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will give her justice, so that she will not beat me down by her continual coming.'" 6 And the Lord said, "Hear what the unrighteous judge says. 7 And will not God give justice to his elect, who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them? 8 I tell you, he will give justice to them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

Being Watchful/Keeping Alert

Staying awake (mind engaged)-being vigilant in prayer

- Being mindful/Focused (Praying specifics)

Matthew 26:36-45

*Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, “Sit here, while I go over there and pray.” 37 And taking with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, he began to be sorrowful and troubled. 38 Then he said to them, “My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and watch with me.” 39 And going a little farther he fell on his face and prayed, saying, “My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will.” 40 And he came to the disciples and found them sleeping. And he said to Peter, “So, could you not watch with me one hour? 41 **Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.**” 42 Again, for the second time, he went away and prayed, “My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done.” 43 And again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. 44 So, leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words again. 45 Then he came to the disciples and said to them, “Sleep and take your rest later on. See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners.*

With thanksgiving or with an attitude of thanksgiving

1 Thess 5:17 *Rejoice always, 17 pray without ceasing, 18 give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.*

- Giving thanks is acknowledging that “*Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.*” (James 1:17)

2 Corinthians 12:9 “*My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.*” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.”

Proverbs 15:18 *The prayer of the upright is His delight* (NASB)