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“Prayer Principles”

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Series: Excelerate

Big Idea:

I can Excelerate my spiritual growth by taking my Next Steps

“Daniel, don’t be afraid. God has heard your prayers ever since the first day you decided to humble yourself in order to gain understanding. I have come in answer to your prayer. (But) the angel prince of the kingdom of Persia opposed me for twenty-one days...”
daniel10/12>13

Prayer Principles:

***Pray with Thanksgiving regardless of your expectation**

“Pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.” 1thessalonians5/17>18

“Be anxious about nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.” philippians4/6>7

***Pray with great Wisdom**

“Do not be hasty in word or impulsive thought to bring up a matter in the presence of God. For God is in heaven and you are on the earth; therefore let your words be few.” ecclesiastes5/2

***Prayer is Submitting myself to God, not forcing God to act**

“Father, if You are willing, remove this cup from Me; yet not My will, but Yours be done”
luke22/42

“They lusted exceedingly... and tempted God in the desert. And He gave them their request but sent leanness into their soul.” psalm106/14>15

“...the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words... because He intercedes for the saints according to the will of God” romans8/26>27

FUSION GROUP STUDY GUIDE

This Fusion Group study guide is designed to help you apply the message to your life and grow in Christian maturity. We encourage you to make it a priority to be part of a Fusion Group on a regular basis. Our Fusion Groups are where faith and practice, where friendships with others, where learning and lifestyle are Fused Together. You can listen to our messages at our website: www.acts176.com by clicking on the “Resources” link. You can get info about our Fusion Groups from our web site as well, or my emailing info@acts176.com.

CELEBRATE (celebrating who God is, and what He is doing)

1. Read 1 Thessalonians 5:17-18 and Philippians 4:6-7. Why is it hard to celebrate (or give thanks) when you are in a tough spot or going through difficult times?
2. Why does God want us to celebrate, give thanks, when we are in difficult times?
3. What are the results we experience when we celebrate and give thanks?

CONTRIBUTE (contributing to God, His Church, and others)

1. When we are in difficult times it sometimes feels even more difficult to contribute to God’s work or to the needs of others. Why do you think?
2. What is the value of contributing to God and to the needs of others even though you feel like you’ve got nothing left to give, or are worn out from difficulty?

CONNECT (connecting with God and others)

1. How does submitting to God in the midst of difficulty connect you more to Him?
2. Read Luke 22:42. If God didn’t answer Jesus’ prayer the way Jesus initially wanted why do we think He should answer ours the way we want?
3. Read 2 Corinthians 12:7-10. How do you think Paul felt pleading with God for healing and not receiving it? Why do you think God wouldn’t heal him?

CREATE (Creating other Christ Followers, and creating God’s Kingdom on earth)

1. How does trusting God even when your prayers go unanswered help create you into the person God designed you to be?