

# **HOW TO PRAY WITH PASSION AND POWER**



Western Youth Conference  
2010

# PROBLEMS WITH PRAYER

- "My prayers feel like they are bouncing off the ceiling. I don't know if God hears them or if He even cares."
- "I can't seem to concentrate during prayer. As soon as I close my eyes, I start thinking of something else."
- "I find myself saying the same things over and over. Every day, it's 'Same as yesterday, Lord.'"

# Two Missing Ingredients

- Our prayers lack passion
- Our prayers lack power

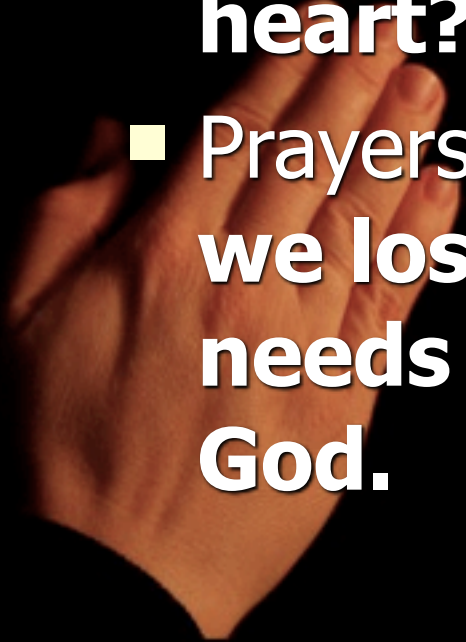


# The same old, same old



# Why have we lost our passion?

- Is your prayer a **wish list**?
- Or does your prayer reveal a **thirsty heart**?
- Prayers are made passionless when **we lose touch with our deepest needs and desire for the heart of God.**



# Prayer

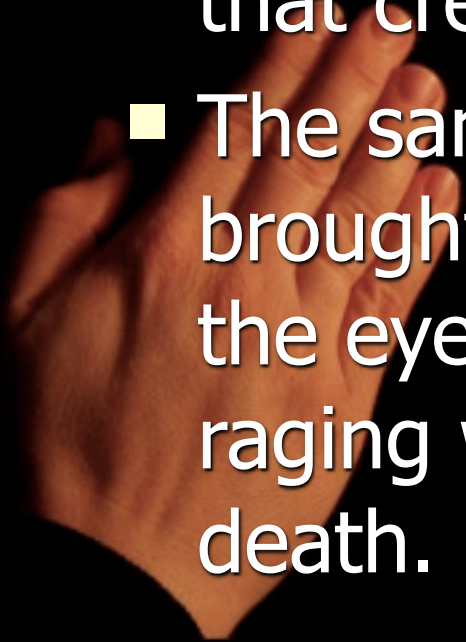
**The idea that prayer is not essential is one of Satan's most successful devices to ruin souls.**

**Prayer is communion with God, the Fountain of wisdom, the Source of strength, and peace, and**



# Prayer is Power!

- By prayer we are connecting with the God of the universe – the same power that created everything that exists.
- The same power that healed the sick, brought hope to the hopeless, opened the eyes of the blind, that calmed the raging waves and brought life from death.



# Prayer

Without unceasing prayer and diligent watching we are in danger of growing careless and of deviating from the right path. The adversary seeks continually to obstruct the way to the mercy seat, that we may not by earnest supplication and faith obtain grace and power **to resist temptation.**" Steps to Christ, pages 94,95.




# Prayer

**The darkness of the evil one encloses those who neglect to pray.** The whispered temptations of the enemy entice them to sin; and it is all because they do not make use of the privileges that God has given them in the divine appointment of prayer. Review and Herald, December 8,



# Prayer



**Pray much. Prayer is the  
life of soul. The prayer of  
faith is the **weapon** by  
which we may  
**successfully resist** every  
assault of the enemy.--**

Manuscript 24, 1904

# Prayer

Prayer is the breath of the soul. It is the **secret of spiritual power**. No other means of grace can be substituted, and the health of the soul be preserved. Prayer brings the heart into immediate contact with the Well-spring of life, and strengthens the sinew and muscle of the religious experience.



# Prayer

**Neglect** the exercise of prayer, or engage in prayer spasmodically, now and then, as seems convenient, and **you lose your hold on God**. The spiritual faculties lose their vitality, the religious experience lacks health and vigor. Gospel Workers, page 254



# What is the purpose of prayer?

- Is prayer simply a religious duty?
- Is prayer to touch the heart of God?
- Do we pray so that God can answer our wishes and desires?



# What is the Purpose of Prayer?

**"Prayer is not to work any change in God; it is to bring us into harmony with God."**

Christ's Object Lessons,  
page 143



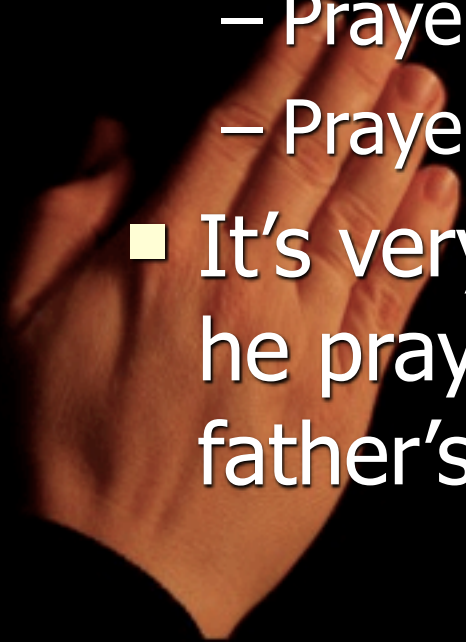
# How to Pray with Passion and Power

- Why do you pray? What's your **motivation?**
- How do you pray? What's your **method?**



# What was Jesus' Motivation?

- Three of Jesus' Prayers:
  - Lord's prayer
  - Prayer of John 17
  - Prayer of Gethsemane
- It's very clear that when Jesus prayed, he prayed for his father's glory and his father's will to be done.



# The four elements of prayer

- **Address**



# Prayer is Relational

- It's not all about God and it's not all about me!
- We pray to Abba, Daddy!
- Prayer is about bringing us into a relationship with Him.
- God is both friend and Lord!



# The four elements of prayer

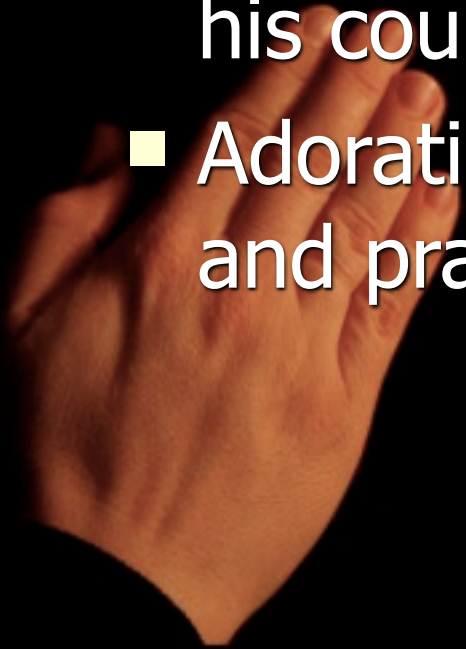
- Address

- **Adore**



# Christians fail to worship God when they pray

- “Hallowed be thy name.”
- “Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise.”
- Adoration is about giving God glory and praise



# The four elements of prayer

- Address

- Adore

- **Ask**



# The four elements of prayer

- Address
- Adore
- Ask
- **Advocate**



# How should we pray?



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- Pray for God's will to be done



# Your Daily Prayer



Consecrate yourself to God in the morning; make this your very first work. Let your prayer be, **"Take me, O Lord, as wholly Thine. I lay all my plans at Thy feet. Use me today in Thy service. Abide with me, and let all my work be wrought in Thee."** This is a daily matter. Each morning consecrate yourself to God for that day. Surrender all your plans to Him, to be carried out or given up as His providence shall indicate. Thus day by day you may be giving your life into the hands of God...

**Steps to Christ, page 70**

# WHAT SHOULD WE PRAY FOR?

- God's promises
- Necessities
- God's mission – the church
- Holy Spirit
- Wisdom/Understanding
- Will/Purpose
- Understanding the times



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- If we cling to any known sin, the Lord will not hear us
- Another element of prevailing prayer is faith
- We come to God feeling helpless and dependent



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- We should have a spirit of love and forgiveness in our hearts
- There is a necessity for diligence in prayer
- We must not neglect secret prayer



# When Do You Pray?



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I REALLY DOUBT THAT MEGAPHONE IS GOING  
TO GET YOUR PRAYERS ANSWERED ANY FASTER

