

January 19, 2026
Devoted to Prayer
Part One | Colossians 4:2

Colossians 4:2 NLT reads

² Devote yourselves to prayer with an alert mind and a thankful heart.

Colossians 4:2 NKJ reads

² Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving;

Colossians 4:2 AMP reads

² Be earnest and unwearied and steadfast in your prayer [life], being [both.] alert and intent in [your praying] with thanksgiving.

My heart has been given a burden not only to be more devoted to God but to also be more devoted in prayer.

God has placed an urgency in my heart that we must become more serious, consistent, and earnest in prayer.

Not only do we need to be more devoted to God and His Word; we need to also be more devoted to prayer.

The Word of God has all that we need to instruct us on prayer and how to pray.

God is calling us to be serious about prayer.

It was Spurgeon that said:

“Prayer bends the omnipotence (unlimited power) of heaven to your desire. Prayer moves the hand that moves the world.”

Our prayers move God’s hand!

So, on your knees before God; you must fight for your family, your circumstances, and your church. Ladies there is no weapon like prayer.

Pray for God to anoint you for service in the ministry of prayer.

It is an unseen ministry here on earth but is seen by God in the heavenlies.

L. Ravenhill

The ministry of prayer is the highest ministry of all human offices and it is open to all!
You see to be much for God we must be much with God!

Prayer warriors are the power source of the church.

Charles Haddon Spurgeon (1834-1892) is known as the “prince of preachers.” He was pastor of the London Metropolitan Tabernacle and the hand of God was upon him and his church mightily and through his ministry the Lord ignited revival. Thousands came to Christ through his preaching. There were times where worship services drew as many as 10,000 people.

Spurgeon had a humble and biblical attitude about his ministry. He never took credit for the fruit. As a matter of fact, when people came to his church to learn the “secret” of his success, he took them to the basement where there were hundreds of people (700) on their knees in fervent prayer. Yes. There was prayer before, and even during the service! Spurgeon called these prayer gatherings the church’s “boiler room.”

Alan Redpath

Prayer opens the channel between a soul and God; prayerlessness closes it. Prayer releases the grip of Satan's power; prayerlessness increases it. That is why prayer is so exhausting and so vital.
If we believed it, the prayer meeting would be as full as the church.

Ladies, Prayer is a privilege; when we bow our hearts in prayer, we place ourselves before an audience of One; the audience of the great I AM. An audience means a listener, a viewer, and a fan. To have an audience with someone means a formal meeting with an important person.

God is your audience of one.

It is there; that we find:

Our proper post;

In a powerful place;

It is where:

Penitence is practiced

His presence is pondered;

Our praise is poured forth;

Our Petitions are placed before Him.

Devoted is an adjective, a descriptive word and it is characterized by loyalty and devotion:

1

a : religious fervor : piety

b : an act of prayer or private worship

*c : a religious exercise or practice other than the regular corporate (see corporate sense 2)
worship of a congregation*

2

a : the act of dedicating something to a cause, enterprise, or activity : the act of devoting

b : the fact or state of being ardently dedicated and loyal

*Devotion and the verb devote come from the Latin verb *vovēre* which means "to vow".*

Devote was once used as an adjective that could mean either "devout" or "devoted." While devout implies faithfulness of a religious nature ("a devout parishioner), devoted refers to one's commitment to another through love and loyalty.

In light of these definitions; let me ask you some questions:

Are you committed to Prayer driven by love and loyalty? Or a sense of duty?

Are you fervent in prayer? Or do you quickly throw up your requests and move on?

Are you practicing in a time of prayer on a daily regular basis?

Are you only praying corporately, or with a prayer partner and neglecting your private prayer?

My heart for you and for myself personally, is that we become more devoted, more passionate, and more watchful and more consistent in prayer.

This type of prayer is not the flip it up to God prayers that we find ourselves praying constantly throughout the day. The type of prayer I am referring to is the desperate for more of Him prayer that drives us to have daily times in His presence. It is daily times in prayer where we cry out to Him and pour out our hearts before Him.

Psalm55:17 NLT

Morning, noon, and night

I cry out in my distress,
and the Lord hears my voice.

Lamentations 2:19 NLT

Rise during the night and cry out.

Pour out your hearts like water to the Lord.
Lift up your hands to him in prayer,
pleading for your children,
for in every street
they are faint with hunger.

Psalm 62:8

Trust in Him at all times, you people;

Pour out your heart before Him;

God is a refuge for us. *Selah*

The type of prayer I am referring to is a sweet perfume dispelled and it is persistent prayer and it is desperate prayer.

The kind of prayer that allows us to catch a glimpse of His majesty, to take hold of The God of Heaven's armies, and to pray through every obstacle until Heaven moves and lives are changed.

This type of prayer is a fragrant perfume produced by brokenness; that rises to His throne for His moving power.

As you study the prayers of the bible (and we will take a look at several prayers of the bible in the months ahead) you discover that it doesn't matter how articulate you are in your prayers. We are to simply speak to God! I praise God for that.

Leonard Ravenhill

Prayer is profoundly simple and simply profound. "Prayer is the simplest form of speech that infant lips can try," and yet so sublime that it outranges all speech and exhausts man's vocabulary. A Niagara of burning words does not mean that God is either impressed or moved.

One of the most profound of Old Testament intercessors had no language

"Her lips moved, but her voice was not heard."

No linguist here! There are groanings which cannot be uttered."

Here Ravenhill is referring to Hannah's prayer in 1 Samuel 1.

Romans 8:26 AMP

²⁶In the same way the Spirit [comes to us and] helps us in our weakness. We do not know what prayer to offer *or* how to offer it as we should, but the Spirit Himself [knows our need and at the right time] intercedes on our behalf with sighs *and* groanings too deep for words.

What matters in prayer is the simple genuineness of a desperate and passionate heart before God that longs for his wisdom, direction, and answers. A heart that longs to see Him move on behalf of those whom you love.

A.W. Roffe

God sets more value on prayer and communion than labor.

The heavenly bridegroom is wooing a wife, not hiring a servant.

Prayer brings God out of His secret place to work wonders in the earth...

God has made it easy to be devoted in prayer because He has given us access to Him.

We have been given access to seek out God's incredible heart and mind for our lives and for the lives of those we love!

He gives us access to His limitless wisdom! We have access to Him at anytime, anywhere and for any reason!

Hebrews 4:16

¹⁶ Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

He makes it easy for us to be devoted to prayer because He listens and hears.

1 Peter 3:12

¹² For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous,
And His ears are open to their prayers;
But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.”

2 Chronicles 7:14

¹⁴ if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

Psalms 34:17-18

¹⁷ The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears,
And delivers them out of all their troubles.
¹⁸ The Lord is near to those who have a broken heart,
And saves such as ¹⁹ have a contrite spirit.

Isaiah 65:24

²⁴ “It shall come to pass
That before they call, I will answer;
And while they are still speaking, I will hear.

He makes it easy for us to be devoted to prayer because He cares and holds our prayer close to His heart.

Our prayer is like incense.

Psalms 141:2

² Let my prayer be set before You *as* incense,
The lifting up of my hands *as* the evening sacrifice.

The Fragrance of prayer is perpetual, it lingers, remains, stays on the heart of God, and lasts forever through eternity.

God places our prayers in holding; and treasures them; and answers them according to His will and in the most perfect moment.

Our prayers are placed in golden bowls for God to keep close to his heart until the most perfect time and in the most perfect way He chooses to answer and move with His mighty hand.

Revelation 8:1-5

8 When He opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour. ² And I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and to them were given seven trumpets. ³ Then another angel, having a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. He was given much incense that he should offer *it* with the prayers of all the saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne. ⁴ And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, ascended before God from the angel's hand. ⁵ Then the angel took the censer, filled it with fire from the altar, and threw *it* to the earth. And there were noises, thunderings, lightning, and an earthquake.

Revelation 5:8

⁸ Now when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints.

Your prayers are not forgotten by God and because their fragrance is ever before Him you can rest assured that He will take care of them.

O. Hallesby

The shower of answers to your prayers will continue to your dying hour. Nor will it cease then. When you pass out from beneath the shower, your dear ones will step into it. Every prayer and every sigh which you have uttered for them and their future welfare will, in God's time, descend upon them as a gentle rain of answers to prayer.

Every prayer that you pray will last long after you end your time here on earth.

E. M. Bounds

God shapes the world by prayer. Prayers are deathless. The lips that uttered them may be closed in death, the heart that felt them may have ceased to beat, but the prayers live before God, and God's heart is set on them. Prayers outlive the lives of those who uttered them: outlive a generation, outlive an age, outlive a world.

Doesn't that stir up in you the need to be more devoted in prayer?

He makes it easy to be devoted to prayer because He is all Powerful!

When we go into prayer, we must acknowledge that we are in the presence of the Most High God.

And it is not only our proper post or position, but also the most powerful place.

Powerful because God is powerful.

God is:

The God of Heaven's Armies

Man of War

Our Strong Tower

Our Mighty Fortress

Our Protector

Our Deliverer

He has the power to heal

He has the power to give life and the power to take life

He has the power to save us from our enemies and in power He saved our souls.

He has the power to hold the world together and with the power of His mere words the world can be undone.

God is our Refuge, our safe Haven, our Hope; our Stability; our Confidant, our best friend!

He is a great King, a Prince among princes, He is Sovereign, He is Just, and He is God!

He is the creator, redeemer, and restorer of souls!

He is the One who can remove every obstacle out of your way and He is the One who can change the hearts of men.

In the book, *Kneeling we Triumph*, it is said that:

“Prayer is the Christian’s greatest resource and the one least used. It is his greatest obligation and the one most neglected. It is the most common form of devotion, yet the one least understood. Prayer is the gateway to God’s presence, but few enter. Prayer is the channel of God’s grace, but in most lives, it is clogged. It is commonly supposed that anyone can pray, but only those who are accepted in Christ have full access to God. Many regard as optional, but God requires prayer as the condition of His working and where there is no prayer, there is no power.”

God’s power is so very trustworthy and He is absolutely reliable, He is continually faithful, and He always comes through!

So, devote yourself to prayer.

Trust Him! Trust Him with your heart, trust Him with your loved ones. Trust Him with your requests, supplications, and intercessions! Trust Him for His unlimited power.

He is the prayer-hearing, ear-lending, emotional-stabilizing, next-step, hope-holding, power moving God!

We are to be devoted or may I say; earnest *and* unwearied *and* steadfast; continuing earnestly, with an alert mind. We must be vigilant. Vigilant means to keep watch for possible danger or difficulty. Alertly watchful especially to avoid danger.

It has been said:

Men may spurn our appeals, reject our message, oppose our arguments, despise our persons; but they are helpless against our prayers.

We are living in the last days and we as women who profess to know Jesus must be devoted to prayer. We must be watchful.

Last Sunday and in last Wednesday's evening bible study; Pastor Phil brought us to:

2 Chronicles 14:6-7

6 And he built fortified cities in Judah, for the land had rest; he had no war in those years, because the Lord had given him rest. 7 Therefore he said to Judah, "Let us build these cities and make walls around them, and towers, gates, and bars, while the land is yet before us, because we have sought the Lord our God; we have sought Him, and He has given us rest on every side." So, they built and prospered.

Asa prepared for war in a time of peace.

Ladies; you must prepare for war in your times of peace. You must be interceding on behalf of your family, friends, and church in times of rest and peace to prepare for the times of unrest and tribulation that may come their way.

We must live in readiness and pray, we must be alert and pray, we must be awake and pray, we must be vigilant and pray, and we must watch and pray.

We must keep watch and take up our proper post.

Mark 13:32-37

³³Take heed, watch and pray; for you do not know when the time is. ³⁴*It is like a man going to a far country, who left his house and gave authority to his servants, and to each his work, and commanded the doorkeeper to watch.* ³⁵Watch therefore, for you do not know when the master of the house is coming—in the evening, at midnight, at the crowing of the rooster, or in the morning—³⁶lest, coming suddenly, he find you sleeping. ³⁷And what I say to you, I say to all: Watch!"

Watch and pray; watch and wait; watch. 3 times Jesus said watch 3 times.

Ephesians 6:18

¹⁸praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints—

1 Peter 4:7

⁷But the end of all things is at hand; therefore, be serious and watchful in your prayers.

Revelation 3:2a

²Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain,

Matthew 26:41

Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

1 Peter 5:8

Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

Luke 18:1

Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart,

Our devotion to prayer and eagerness to meet with God diminishes due to a lack of answers. However, Jesus Himself has told us to pray and not lose heart. The Amplified reads; always pray and not give up.

1 Thessalonians 5:6-8

Therefore let us not sleep, as others *do*, but let us watch and be sober. For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk are drunk at night. But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and *as* a helmet the hope of salvation.

My prayer is that you will possess an urgency and a passion to pray.

S.D. Gordon

The great people of the earth today are the people who pray. I do not mean those who talk about prayer; nor those who say they believe in prayer; nor yet those who can explain about prayer; but I mean those people who take time to pray.

So, I am going to ask a few questions for you to write in your journals; these are for you to ponder before God:

How is your prayer life?

Do you take your post before the all-powerful God, daily?

Do you confess your sins before God?

Do you take time before God proclaiming His Greatness, His Power, His Character?

Do you pray in His will and in accordance to His Word? **We must pray in God's will and in God's ways.**

Do you pray for yourself?

Do you pray for your family one by one?

Do you pray for your friends?

Do you pray for your church? Your pastor? Your assistant pastors?

Do you have a prayer partner? A confidant, a godly prayerful woman.

My heart is to exhort you, to stir up in you a holy passion for being in God's presence through prayer, more than you already are.

E. M. Bounds

All that Christ has may become ours if we obey the conditions. The one secret is prayer. The place of revealing and of equipping, of grace and of power, is the prayer chamber, and as we meet there with God we shall not only win our triumphs, but we shall also grow in the likeness of our Lord and become His living witnesses to men.

Let's pray.