

Connected: My Life in the Church
Speaker: Dr. Bill Patterson



Today's Scripture

Ephesians 6:18-20 NIV

¹⁸ And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. ¹⁹ Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.

Devote yourselves to prayer.
Colossians 4:2



Soul Food

GOING TO THE NEXT LEVEL

You are encouraged to read verses before and after the selected passages.

Sunday: Ephesians 6:18-20 Practice prayer persistently.

Mon: Rom. 8:26-30 The Holy Spirit helps us in prayer.

Tue: Luke 18:1-8 Parable of persistent prayer.

Wed: Matt. 26:36-41 Pray so you do not fall into temptation.

Thurs: Philippians 4:4-9 Pray in every situation.

Friday: Acts 1:12-14 Early Church constantly in prayer.

Saturday: 2 Cor. 5:16-21 We are Christ's ambassadors.

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Sermon Notes



Big Idea: Support Trinity with prayer.

Trinity

But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

James 1:22 (NIV)

Your Life in Light of the Word

To become a mature, spiritually reproducing follower of Jesus we have to interact with the Bible. These questions are designed to help you dig deeper into the Word of God.



Discuss: Prayer is to the spiritual life as breathing is to the physical life.

Prayer is communication with God. Some think prayer is like a 911 call, others see prayer as something very casual. How would you describe your prayer life?

What does your prayer life reveal about your view of God?

Ask God to give you courage to share Jesus with others. Why do you think some Christians are hesitant to do this?

What do you think could happen if you sincerely asked God to bless you with boldness to tell others about Him?

How are you deliberately seeking to enhance your prayer life? For some ideas pick up a copy of *How to Pray with Confidence*, by Dr. Bill Bright at the (Welcome Center)

What are your prayer goals for the remainder of 2020?

How does prayer tie into your role as an ambassador of Christ?

Praying God's Word ~ Ephesians 6:18-20

- Practice prayer on all occasions.
- Pray, confess sin, profess faith, adore God.
- Ask God for wisdom in prayer.
- Pray for the church leaders.
- Ask God to help you fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel.
- Ask God to bless Trinity as we boldly make the good news of Jesus Christ known.



The Daily Prayer

Cindy Hess Kasper

Our Daily Bread

Singer/songwriter Robert Hamlet wrote “Lady Who Prays for Me” as a tribute to his mother who made a point of praying for her boys each morning before they went to the bus stop. After a young mom heard Hamlet sing his song, she committed to praying with her own little boy. The result was heart-warming! Just before her son went out the door, his mother prayed for him. Five minutes later he returned—bringing kids from the bus stop with him! His mom was taken aback and asked what was going on. The boy responded, “Their moms didn’t pray with them.”

In the book of Ephesians, Paul urges us to pray “on all occasions with all kinds of prayers” (6:18). Demonstrating our daily dependence on God is essential in a family since many children first learn to trust God as they observe genuine faith in the people closest to them ([2 Tim. 1:5](#)). There is no better way to teach the utmost importance of prayer than by praying *for* and *with* our children. It is one of the ways they begin to sense a compelling need to reach out personally to God in faith.

When we “start children off” by modeling a “sincere faith” in God ([Prov. 22:6](#); [2 Tim. 1:5](#)), we give them a special gift, an assurance that God is an ever-present part of our lives—continually loving, guiding, and protecting us.

Daily prayers lessen daily worries.