



WEDNESDAY EVENING

AT BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH

Title: Daniel: Persistent in Prayer

Passage: Daniel 6:10-23

Speaker: Associate Pastor David Wood

Introduction: We know prayer is important, and we know we should be consistent in it. Yet so often, we neglect prayer and wonder why discouragement begins to take its place. Tonight, instead of focusing on how to pray, I want us to consider why Daniel was so persistent in prayer. His prayer life wasn't simply a religious routine; it flowed from a personal relationship with God. So the question tonight is: What leads to a persistent prayer life?

I. An Elevated View of God (Verse 10)

The more capable Daniel became, the less he seemed to trust in his own capability. His ability never replaced his dependence upon God.

Daniel had learned that being outnumbered does not mean being overpowered when God is on your side.

Everything around Daniel could change without changing the God to whom Daniel prayed.

Our circumstances should never determine God's worthiness.

If God becomes small in our thinking, prayer becomes optional. When God is high and lifted up in our thinking, seeking Him becomes essential.



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II. A Consuming Need for God (Verse 10)

Daniel prayed because somewhere along the way he had become convinced that he needed God more than he needed anything else.

"Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled." (Matthew 5:6)

Self-sufficiency is one of the greatest enemies of persistent prayer.

Persistent prayer develops when God ceases to be merely the person we call when we need something and becomes the One we cannot imagine living without.

III. An Unshakable Confidence in God (Verses 16, 20-23)

Even the pagan king recognized that Daniel's relationship with God was continual.

If your confidence rests in who God is, you can keep praying when you don't understand what He is doing.

Daniel had learned: When he couldn't do anything about his situation, God wasn't worried and he didn't have to worry either.

Persistent prayer isn't confidence that God will always do what we ask. It is confidence that God can be trusted with whatever He chooses to do.

IV. A Deepening Walk with God (Verses 9:1-4)

Daniel never reached the point where he thought, "I already know enough."



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A deepening walk with God should produce a deepening desire to know God.

The closer we get to God, the more conscious we become of how desperately we need Him.

The closer you get to God, the greater He becomes and the smaller you become in your own eyes.

A deepening walk produces persistent prayer. Prayer stops being merely something you do and increasingly becomes part of who you are.

Conclusion: We simply need to ask the Lord to draw us closer to Him. Life gets busy, distractions come, and before we realize it, prayer can become something we fit into our lives rather than something we depend upon. Don't just leave determined to pray more. Ask God to deepen your relationship with Him, to help you know Him more, trust Him more, and desire His presence more. Then tomorrow and the next day, seek Him again. Persistent prayer isn't simply about praying more. It's about continually drawing closer to God.