

January 7, 2018

TIME OF REFLECTION

“True prayer is neither a mere mental exercise nor a vocal performance. It is far deeper than that – it is spiritual transaction with the Creator of Heaven and Earth.”

“In prayer, we stand where angels bow with veiled faces. There, even there, the cherubim and seraphim adore before that selfsame throne to which our prayers ascend. And shall we come there with stunted requests and narrow, contracted faith?”

~Charles Spurgeon (1834-1892), famed London preacher

“One of the greatest attacks of the enemy is to make you busy, to make you hurried... that there is no room for prayer.”

~Paul Washer, American missionary leader

“To be a Christian without prayer is no more possible than to be alive without breathing.”

~Martin Luther (1483-1546), German reformer

“Prayer causes things to happen, that would not happen if we do not pray.”

~John Piper, American pastor and writer

“Prayer lays hold upon God and influences Him to work. This is the meaning of prayer as it concerns God. This is the doctrine of prayer, or else there is nothing whatever in prayer.”

~E.M. Bounds (1835-1913), Methodist clergyman and author

“Follow thou me. I am the way and the truth and the life. Without the way there is no going; without the truth there is no knowing; without the life there is no living. I am the way which thou must follow; the truth which thou must believe; the life for which thou must hope. I am the inviolable way; the infallible truth, the never-ending life. I am the straightest way; the sovereign truth; life true, life blessed, life uncreated.”

~Thomas à Kempis (1380-1471), on Jesus’s statement in John 14:6

Worship through the Word

SERMON – “The Audacity of Prayer” – *Pastor Don Willeman*

SERMON PASSAGE – *John 14:1-15 (NASB)*

¹“Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. ²In My Father’s house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. ³If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And you know the way where I am going.” ⁵Thomas said to Him, “Lord, we do not know where You are going, how do we know the way?” ⁶Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.

⁷If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also; from now on you know Him, and have seen Him.”

⁸Philip said to Him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.” ⁹Jesus said to him, “Have I been so long with you, and yet you

have not come to know Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; how can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father is in Me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on My own initiative, but the Father abiding in Me does His works. ¹¹Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me; otherwise believe because of the works themselves. ¹²Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do, he will do also; and greater works than these he will do; because I go to the Father. ¹³Whatever you ask in My name, that will I do, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do it.”

¹⁵“If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.”