

LIVING ON A PRAYER

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I. LIVING ON A PRAYER

Tagline: *Prayer changes everything, and most times, it begins inside of you.*

Matthew 6:5-15 (NASB)

⁵ “And when you pray, you are not to be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and on the street corners so that they will be seen by people. Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full. ⁶ But as for you, when you pray, go into your inner room, close your door, and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees what is done in secret will reward you.

⁷ “And when you are praying, do not use thoughtless repetition as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard because of their many words. ⁸ So do not be like them; for your Father knows what you need before you ask Him.

⁹ “Pray, then, in this way:

‘Our Father, who is in heaven,
Hallowed be Your name.

¹⁰ Your kingdom come.

Your will be done,

On earth as it is in heaven.

¹¹ Give us this day our daily bread.

¹² And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

¹³ And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil’

¹⁴ For if you forgive other people for their offenses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. ¹⁵ But if you do not forgive other people, then your Father will not forgive your offenses.

1. Prayer is Personal

- Private Prayers Produce Righteous Rewards
- Prayer Aligns Us to God’s Will

Luke 9:25 (NASB) For what good does it do a person if he gains the whole world, but loses or forfeits himself?

2. Prayer is Obedience

- Prayer is Framed by Obedience Not Convenience.

Matthew 26:40-41 (NASB) And He *came to the disciples and *found them sleeping, and He *said to Peter, “So, you men could not keep watch with Me for one hour? Keep watching and praying, so that you do not come into temptation; the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

- *“Pray as though everything depended on God. Work as though everything depended on you.” - St. Augustine*

3. Prayer is Forgiveness

- Unforgiveness is choosing to stay trapped in a jail cell of bitterness, serving time for someone else’s crime

Ephesians 4:26 (NKJV) “Be angry, and do not sin”: do not let the sun go down on your wrath, nor give place to the devil.”

- Forgiveness is the Heart of Our Father.