

## Pray to Cultivate Godly Perseverance

Do you see the compelling reason/ need to pray? I have no choice but to pray.

As you pray, be brought to the right mode to pray (x ritually, with deep communion and conviction, from The Lord -> this is how your godly inclination deepens)

What have you realistically overcome during prayer? - it is during prayers that you nail the things on the cross.

Our hearts need to be encouraged during prayers, only then we will pursue and continue to pray and communicate with God

*Know the truth (spirit works in your conscious mind) --> pray through the truth, confirm it (let the spirit work through your heart)*

For when I preach the gospel, I cannot boast, since I am compelled to preach. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel! If I preach voluntarily, I have a reward; if not voluntarily, I am simply discharging the trust committed to me. (1 Corinthians 9:16-17 NIV)

- Sometimes we do it involuntarily, that's is when we be **counter-intuitive and pray through the truth, and let the HS lift you up.**
- **Don't be spiritual naive, put off your spiritual infancy and move forward to maturity that god pushes us into --> arouse the godly disposition that God has given us!**

To those not having the law I became like one not having the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law), so as to win those not having the law. To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some. (1 Corinthians 9:21-22 NIV) I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings. (1 Corinthians 9:23 NIV)

- Sometimes we do a lot, but we **only save some. But it is fine, because we can save some.**
- **It is hard, because we have temperaments. Don't give in to people's hardness (trying to tell you the giant, and weaken your heart to pray)**

Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. Therefore I do not run like someone running aimlessly; I do not fight like a boxer beating the air. No, I strike a blow to my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize. (1 Corinthians 9:24-27 NIV)

- Beat your body (know-how on how to wrestle) until your body (inclination not to pray, want to yield in) listens to **the spirit**

### What is the pressing reason to pray

1. God is on our side (Ro 8:31-39)
  - For **I am convinced** that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 8:38-39 NIV)
  - There are indeed *Christians who experience bad outlook eg sufferings, wheelchair -> but we don't be deceived! this ro8--> they are glorious and experience joy in the supreme love of god (deep sustaining joy)*
  - **We often can't pray when we are troubled, and feel lousy. What's wrong? God has already given us the promise through the redemption on the cross --> what is standing between you and god today? ! Your feeling. Your Heartfelt likeness --> don't pray because you feel good! but because god is on our side**
2. Aware of the spiritual reality especially the dark forces that is at work in the end times
  - Spiritual frontiers of Satan --> **corrupt the hearts of mind**
  - Sometimes, you cannot get out of being controlled by the influences around us (information, busy schedule, and ...) --> **we are too weak spiritually**
  - Pray even when you are feeling good
3. Still not living fully in sync with the gospel, for the gospel
  - We know the facts, theories of godly living
  - But there **are few hurdles to cross --> satan dwells between head and heart! heart and works**
  - Pray till we live it out (the Christian heart - selfless, love all, offer all, knowing that god is the refuge, seek his will)

- Don't pray for some peace, pray **to do the will of God (that is when Christ reigns, because you live in the gospel, for the gospel, by the gospel)**
  - **Don't believe you live it out until you are really making choices, sacrificing for the gospel**
  - What is gospel -centric? Not feeling for the gospel, but making choices for the gospel (not spare change, but planning all things **for the gospel**) --> that is when you experience the empowerment of HS
4. Join in the advancement of the kingdom
- Because the false gospels are so strong, we have to advance forcefully
  - From the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven has been subjected to violence(**advancing forcefully**), and violent people have been raiding it. (Matthew 11:12 NIV)
  - Live with Violent faith
    - Not protesting or burning al quaran
    - But **violence against lukewarmness, godless culture by making real choices for the kingdom, and living out the fullness of Christ --> you pray intensely to get your mind focused on the race, and gear up in your tempo**

### Develop in us a godly inclination in facing spiritual adversity

1. Will not be reduced to faithlessness
  - No bitter roots (the thinking that says -- this is not the gospel! **The inclination inside that makes you cannot yield in FULLY and accept FULLY what the truth of God , as it is.**You do not care about the glory of god, because you want to make resistances and covering for yourself because you cannot do it) arising from you just because you are weak by nature or being tempted or you have things that you cannot overcome
  - God gives grace to the humble (brokenness), and opposes the proud --> **don't entertain the thoughts that are against the gospel**
2. **Attain spirituality**
  - **Our struggles will deepen our desire to pray**
  - Instead of letting lose, experience the passive strength of hS to pray (this is maturity, not yielding in to the inclinations of old self, situations)
3. Christ personality
  - Christ personality + my personality
  - Can we sense the fusion of **Christ personality and yours --> can people see the Christ character through you.**
4. **Our struggles** make us a witness for Christ
  - You do have to pray for problems to be gone, but **pray for his witness in this struggle, in such times**
  - **They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths. But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry. (2 Timothy 4:4-5 NIV)**
  - **For everyone looks out for their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ.(many who serve, but do we serve ourselves or we care about the glory of god).** But you know that Timothy has proved himself, because as a son with his father he has served with me in the work of the gospel. I hope, therefore, to send him as soon as I see how things go with me. And I am confident in the Lord that I myself will come soon. (Philippians 2:21-24 NIV)

### How to cultivate godly inclination through prayers

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. 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, (Ephesians 6:18-19 NIV)

1. Pray in the spirit
  - (Acts of prayers.. Vs pray in the spirit) Finding time in the morning is not the same as praying in the spirit
  - **Truth indoctrination in you first --> you will be brought into a constant spiritual battle because you are spiritually sensitive due to the truth that gels in you** (battle vs the unseen evil that works against the promise of cOG! 4G, that stops you from seeking the will of god)
  - **Prayer is the attitude and acuity you draw the sword** (very sensitive towards the spiritual influence that steals you away from the promise of God)
2. On all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests
  - Pray as you live, and you live as you pray <prayer and living are in one>
  - Everything you do, you care about the glory of God, therefore you constantly seek him
  - Prayers are so natural, NOT unnatural
3. Pray for all the saints/ Paul
  - Pray for evangelical work

