



Pilgrim Rest
MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
Preaching, Teaching and Reaching for
Transformation and Liberation

“CONSCIOUS AND INTENTIONAL MINISTRY: DOING WHO I AM”

Also I heard the voice of the Lord saying: “Whom shall I send, And who will go for Us?” Then I said, “Here am I! Send me.” Isaiah 6:8

THE PASTOR’S PEN September 4, 2022

PRAY WITHOUT CEASING

¹⁷ pray without ceasing (1 Thessalonians 5:17)

What does it mean for us to pray without ceasing? Does that mean we are to pray every day – all throughout the day? Does that mean that our lives are so occupied with praying that we are not able to do anything else recreationally or ministry related?

Clearly, Paul was not telling us that 24 hours a day – every minute of the day was to be spent in prayer. If so, how do we sleep? When do we eat? What is the likelihood of fulfilling our ministry callings?

In this passage, Paul was encouraging us that we are to develop a lifestyle of prayer to the point that prayer is foundational to everything that we do. Every decision that I make should be made in prayer. Every option that I take should be taken in prayer. Every choice that I choose should be chosen in prayer. Paul’s is highlighting for us that prayer should be at the bottom of and in the center of everything that I do.

How does this relate to specific things for which I may be praying? Should I remain continually prayerful for those things or should I, in the words of the hymn, “Take your burdens to the Lord and leave them there”?

How do I balance developing a lifestyle of prayer for every aspect of my life and the belief of some that I am showing a lack of faith if I pray for a particular request more than once? Over the next weeks, we will review Biblical stories of individuals regarding consistency in prayer with the faith to believe God will respond – relating to specific requests.

The Unjust Judge – Luke 18:1-8, ¹ Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart, ² saying: “There was in a certain city a judge who did not fear God nor regard man. ³ Now there was a widow in that city; and she came to him, saying, ‘Get justice for me from my adversary.’ ⁴ And he would not for a while; but afterward he said within himself, ‘Though I do not fear God nor regard man, ⁵ yet because this widow troubles me I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.’ ” ⁶ Then the Lord said, “Hear what the unjust judge said. ⁷ And shall God not avenge His own elect who cry out day and night to Him, though He bears long with them? ⁸ I tell you that He will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?”

A. We always ought to pray and not lose heart

1. Always = Always
2. 1 Thessalonians 5:17 – *Pray without ceasing*

B. The Unjust Judge

1. He had no fear of God, no regard for humans
2. The woman came seeking justice from him, however, she found none
3. After she continued coming to him, he later determined. “Though I do not fear God nor regard man, yet because this widow troubles me I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me”
4. Jesus then concluded, “...shall God not avenge His own elect who cry out day and night to Him, though He bears long with them?” “He will avenge them speedily”
5. **Lesson: If an unjust judge will respond favorably to a persistent widow, certainly God will respond to His children’s persistent prayers**

The Pilgrim Rest Oasis

Sharing the Faith · Securing the Future

Through faith God has given us the space to be an oasis in the middle of the city.

An oasis is a fertile spot in the desert where refuge, relief, and refreshment is found.

Be part of God's plan for Pilgrim Rest and this community.

Start contributing to the Oasis today!
Let's continue to make progress!



Thank you for your continued support of God's plan for us.

Beginning



Current



Your contribution can be dedicated to a specific activity or the Oasis, in general.

	Educational Enrichment	Technology Literacy	Athletics & Recreation	Performing Arts	Facility Innovation
\$500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15 Subject books for elementary (math, literature, history, etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 iPad 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 basketballs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 art sets for aspiring artists 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> External security lighting to keep the street well-lit and safe
\$1,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100 Summer Bridge books to help students retain learning during breaks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100 "learn how to code" kits for elementary students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 tennis rackets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 beginner saxophones or 8 beginner violins 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Camera security system to keep everyone safe
\$2,500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9 students can be challenged to excel using interactive problem-solving programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 computer for graphic design and website creation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12 sets of golf clubs for children 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 Play Scripts with performance/licensing fee and cast instructions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wireless PA system to easily communicate at the school
\$5,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 smartboard to help teachers engage students in learning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 STEM lab cart of materials for a classroom with multiple activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3-day Speed and Agility workshop for 15 young aspiring track stars 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100 pairs of tap shoes for aspiring dancers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Battery operated floor scrubber to keep the building looking its best
\$10,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 trip for 15 students to visit 1 HBCU 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100 Robotic kits to reinforce studies in STEAM subjects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open gym for 20 young people 1 X a week throughout the winter in a safe place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 200 tickets to see Alvin Ailey Dance Company 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LED light fixtures throughout the school to promote learning and natural light

WORK FOR THE WEEK

SEPTEMBER MEMORY VERSE

¹⁷ Pray without ceasing

1 Thessalonians 5:17

SEPTEMBER MEDITATION QUOTE

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

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

TODAY'S STUDY QUESTIONS AND MEDITATION:

Who are a part of my spiritual heritage? _____

What have they given to me that is foundational to who I am? _____

FOR THE YOUTH

Ask your parents and/or grandparents to talk with you regarding the spiritual heritage they received from their parents and grandparents, and ask them to assist you in applying them in your life _____
