

# Make Time 19 For Prayer

Prayer is the one thing that Christians are commanded to do without ceasing. They're not told to sing without ceasing or to go to church without ceasing or to read the Bible without ceasing; but they are told in I Thessalonians 5:17, "Pray without ceasing." The Scripture also says in Luke 18:1, "Men ought always to pray, and not to faint."

Dr. John R. Rice once said, "All your failures are prayer failures." And then he quoted James 4:2, "Ye have not, because ye ask not."

A. J. Gordon said, "There is more you can do *after* you pray, but there is nothing more you can do *until* you pray."

Prayer is God's appointed way of getting things. He said in Matthew 7:7, "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you."

Prayer is God's appointed way to fullness of joy. He

said in John 16:24, “Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full.” Prayer is God’s appointed way to obtain forgiveness and cleansing. First John 1:9 says, “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” Prayer is God’s appointed way to obtain victory over anxiety (Phil. 4:6, 7).

Prayer is also God’s appointed way of our expressing praise and gratitude. When we pray, God may not do everything we ask Him to do; but if we don’t pray, we don’t even give Him a chance. So pray about things that seem utterly impossible to you. It may surprise you what God will do.

Remember, the possibilities of prayer exceed your ability to ask or think. Ephesians 3:20 says, “Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think....”