

## KEEP PRAYING... IT MATTERS!

February 3, 2013 Ephesians 6:18-20 by Bob Branch  
Standing In Your Inheritance in Christ, Part 37

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**MAIN IDEA:** Keep praying, grow in prayer, it matters! Battle and prayer, truth deployed, in action.

<sup>18</sup> And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and [persevering] always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. <sup>19</sup> Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly [boldly] make known [proclaim] the mystery of the gospel, <sup>20</sup> for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should. **Ephesians 6:18-20**

### 1. Pray **ALL THE TIME.** (18)

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. **1 Thessalonians 5:16-18** (Philippians 4:6)

### 2. Pray with **ALL KINDS OF PRAYERS.** (18)

"Pray *in the Spirit*"

- **Includes "tongues"** but is not limited to tongues.

Otherwise if you bless in the spirit [*en pneumatic*] only, how will the one who fills the place of the ungifted say the "Amen" at your giving of thanks, since he does not know what you are saying? **1 Corinthians 14:16** NAS

- **Singing, thanking, & making music!** (Ephesians 5:18)
- **Spirit-directed prayer.**

**Other KINDS of prayer:**

- Making requests of God. (Phil. 4:6)
- Structured prayer (Lord's Prayer, Liturgies, praying Scripture) (Mt. 6)
- Intercession (prolonged ask, seek, knock; Mt. 7:7-8)
- Lament (grieving before God an injustice; Psalm 52)

- Confession & Repentance (self: Ps. 51; Is. 6:5; Jer. 3:25)
- Fasting & Seeking Him (Acts 13:3)
- Silence (Psalm 4:4)
- Worship & Thanking (Eph. 5:18-19)
- Declarations (1 Pet. 2:9)
- Provision (Mt. 6:11; Phil. 4:11-13)
- Prayers of healing, binding/losing (Mt. 18:18)
- Consecration (yielding, surrender) (Mt. 6:10)
- Protection (Mat. 6:13)
- Forgiving & Forgiveness (Mt. 6:12, 14-15)
- **Pray for yourself**, the battle, hold steady.
- Pray **for others** (saints)
- Pray **for Gospel forward movement** (in others)

Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. Stretch out your hand to heal and perform signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus." After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly. **Acts 4:29-31**

- Pray **for our missionaries** and their work, breakthrough.
- Pray **for ourselves as missionaries!** Bold. Clear. Opportunities. (Acts 1:8)

### 3. **ALERT** and **PERSEVERING** in Prayer.

I have posted watchmen on your walls, Jerusalem; they will never be silent day or night. You who call on the LORD, give yourselves no rest, and give him no rest till he establishes Jerusalem and makes her the praise of the earth. **Isaiah 62:6-7** (1 Peter 5:8)

Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up. **Luke 18:1** (Mt. 7:7-8)

