

Ten Reasons to Pray

Notes from R.A. Torrey's
The Importance of Prayer. (JMS)

Would it help you commit time to prayer if you settled in your mind **why** you should pray? R.A. Torrey posits reasons not only why to pray, but also why prayer must be constant, persistent, sleepless, and overcoming.

1. There is a devil who never rests and is plotting your downfall. Life is a spiritual battle. (Ephesians 6:12)
2. Prayer is God's appointed way for obtaining things. We are to ask, seek, and knock. (James 4:2)
3. Prayer occupied a very prominent place in the earthly life of our Lord. The disciples saw prayer modeled. (Mark 1:35)
4. The disciples and Paul regarded prayer as the most important business of their lives. (Acts 6:2-4; Eph. 6:18-20)
5. Praying is the most important part of the present ministry of our risen Lord, seeing He ever lives to make intercession for them. (Hebrews 7:25)
6. It is the means God has appointed for us to receive mercy and obtain grace to help in time of need. (Hebrews 4:16)
7. It is the way Jesus appointed for His disciples to obtain fullness of joy. "Until now you have asked for nothing in My name; ask, and you will receive, so that your joy may be made full." (John 16:24)
8. Prayer is God's appointed means for us to obtain freedom from all anxiety, and the means of the peace of God which passes all understanding. (Phil. 4:6-7)
9. Pray to cleanse our hearts from overindulgence and the cares of life. Regular prayer prevents us from being unprepared when Christ returns. (Luke 21)
10. Prayer produces spiritual growth. Bible study and prayer go hand in hand. (2 Corinthians 3:18)

If Jesus lives in you and Jesus constantly prays, it seems to follow that as you walk by the spirit of Christ, you too will be compelled to pray.

How to Start a *Cords of Three* Prayer Ministry

Step 1 – Commit yourself to God as His servant to begin this new prayer ministry. Ask Him to help you identify one or two (max.) other believers and invite them to join you each week for a 10-15 minute phone prayer meeting. Don't expect everyone to say "yes."

Write the names below of those you are going to invite to join you.

Step 2 – Organize an initial phone meeting to decide on the logistics (day, time, who will initiate the call, etc.). Put it on your calendar and don't let anything supplant it.

Step 3 – Resolve to begin on a specific date and to be committed to the Lord, to each other, and the weekly prayer meeting.

Step 4 – Deploy. Get started. It may seem a bit awkward at first, but your *Cords of Three* prayer ministry will quickly become a powerful spiritual influence in your life and the lives of those you meet with each week.



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