

# How is your prayer life?

Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. (Heb 4:16)

And He said to them, "It is written, 'MY HOUSE SHALL BE CALLED A HOUSE OF PRAYER'"  
(Mat 21:13)

# You can stand before God

- Therefore, brethren, since we have confidence to enter the holy place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way which He inaugurated for us through the veil, that is, His flesh, and since *we have* a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled *clean* from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful; (Heb 10:19-24)

# Jesus our example

- "But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, (Mat 5:44)
- "But you, when you pray, go into your inner room, close your door and pray to your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees *what is done* in secret will reward you. (Mat 6:6)
- "Pray, then, in this way: 'Our Father who is in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. (Mat 6:9)
- After He had sent the crowds away, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray; and when it was evening, He was there alone. (Mat 14:23)
- It was at this time that He went off to the mountain to pray, and He spent the whole night in prayer to God. (Luke 6:12)

# Instructions from apostles

- In the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for *us* with groanings too deep for words; (Rom 8:26)
- With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints, (Eph 6:18)
- Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. (1 Thess 5:16-18)
- Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another so that you may be healed. The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much. (James 5:16)

# The early church

- These all with one mind were continually devoting themselves to prayer, along with *the* women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers. (Acts 1:14)
- They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. (Acts 2:42)
- "But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." (Acts 6:4)
- rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer, (Rom 12:12)
- First of all, then, I urge that entreaties *and* prayers, petitions *and* thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men, for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity. This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. (1Tim 2:1-4)

# God will act righteously

- For You have maintained my just cause; You have sat on the throne judging righteously. (Psalm 9:4)
- "If I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or if I command the locust to devour the land, or if I send pestilence among My people, and My people who are called by My name humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, will forgive their sin and will heal their land. "Now My eyes will be open and My ears attentive to the prayer *offered* in this place. (2 Chron 7:13-15)