***The Church - Who We Are, & What We Do***

**"*The Purposes of Prayer*"(Part 1) - Jn.17:1-12 - 10/6/19**

*What are the purposes of Prayer?*

**John 17:1-5**

1) To Give God Glory, While Showing Gratitude For Eternal Life

*"I am yours, for you saved my life; and these are yours - as all I have is yours!"*

We give God glory by living a life of gratitude in love and service for having saved our souls.

Jesus prayed and modeled this for us. **John 17:4**

How will you do this? **John 17:18**

A life of gratitude, in love and service, is to be lived in every area of our lives.

**John 17:6-8**

2) To Increase Our Faith & Trust, As Well As Our Treasured Standing

Jesus' prayer is intended for future disciples as well(vs.20); the point is that these same truths/principles are for all who are in Christ.

Prayer increases not only the understanding of our treasured standing, but also our faith and trust in Who Jesus is.

The very nature of prayer to our Father enhances our faith and trust in Him!

*"When a person is born from above, the life of the Son of God is born in him, and he can either starve that life or nourish it. Prayer is the way to nourish one's life with God"* - Oswald Chambers

*"Our ordinary views of prayer aren't found in the New Testament, as we look upon prayer as a means of getting things for ourselves; yet the Bible's idea of prayer is that we may get to know God Himself."* - Oswald Chambers

*"Is it not true that prayer changes things?... As prayer changes me, I change things. Prayer isn't a question of altering things externally, but of working wonders in one's character."* - Oswald Chambers

Lets continue to become a church devoted to prayer. We can do this by prioritizing it individually, in small groups and corporately.

**John 17:9-12**

3) To Foster Unity & Security

The heart and soul of this passage is unity and security.

Unity is the unforced result of being in Christ. It isn't based *primarily* on our actions or outworking, but our position.

This unity is expressed through relationship to the Father, Son and Spirit, as it's then continued through His Body.

We also see a stunning sense of security here. **Vs.11b(not *c*:), +12*a***

Jesus wants us to see that He both prayed for and maintained His disciple's security, and we're to take comfort in and rest in that.

**2 Timothy 1:12*b***

*"Holy Father, keep them in Your Name... "While I was with them, I was keeping them in Your Name"*

*"'In the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ', isn't merely saying His Name over, but it's being enclosed in His Name; and it's representing that which His Name represents."*

It's His authority, His power, His Name and all it represents, that gives us both temporal and eternal security.