

Truly Great to Grow Together

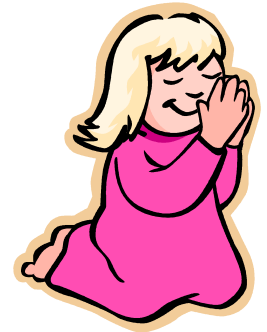
4.2 Pray unceasingly



Bible Verse: Thessalonians 5 :17-18
Pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances,
for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

Proclaim: *Let us not be anxious, but pray to God with a thankful heart.*

Truth: God has said: Do not be anxious about anything, but in all things present our requests to Him through prayer and thanksgiving. And depend on the Holy Spirit so as to pray unceasingly."



Scripture Reference: Daniel 10:1-21

- Lesson:** (1) **God attach importance to prayers** – *Earthly parents hope that their children will speak with them, and are glad to listen to them pouring out their cares. Similarly, our Heavenly Father delights in the prayers of His people. What an honor this is! Jesus said: "Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete." "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you." (John 16:24; Luke 11:9-13)*
- (2) **Different kinds of prayers** – *Prayer is not just praying to God. Giving thanks to God, admitting our mistakes, singing praises to God are also prayers to God. Let us thank our Heavenly Father from the morning time, open our hearts before God, and pray on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests for the saints and leaders. The Bible teaches us that we should also pray for kings and all those in authority. (Ephesians 6:18; 1 Timothy 2:1-2)*
- (3) **The blessings of praying unceasingly** – *The Lord God is a God who hears prayers. God is near to those who call out to Him earnestly. So prayer is the best channel to enter His presence. Sometimes God's response will take a while before it comes to past. In Daniel 10:12, Daniel set his heart to sustain a 21-day prayer that resulted in God's miraculous response brought by an angel. God works in His time and will, and He responses to each prayer at its best timing. Thus, we have to pray unceasingly.*
- (4) **Praying in the Spirit** – *In his prayers, Daniel faced some unnatural hindrances. This goes the same for the believers. At times, we do not feel like praying or cannot be focused in our prayers. The Bible tells us: "In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express." This is what we call "praying in the Spirit". The Holy Spirit wants to strengthen us and enable us to speak with our God using wonderful tongues. (Romans 8:26-27)*

Conclusion: God is gracious and willing to hear our prayers. When young King Solomon prayed for wisdom and discernment, God also granted him riches, honor and health. Thus, let us be praying in the spirit and prevailing in our prayers to God continually.

Prayer/Invitation: Pray that today's truths will be written on our hearts in Lord Jesus' name.