

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 normally hope 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 forms of prayers. Let us thank our Heavenly Father from the morning time, open our hearts before God, and pray on all occasions 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. In Daniel 10:12, Daniel prayed for 21 days. That resulted in God's miraculous response brought by an angel. God works according to His 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 is the same for us. 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 weaknesses. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express." Holy Spirit wants to help and enable us to pray in our spirit, using the gift of 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.

You Will Need:	A BIBLE; VISUAL AIDS - Lesson Title and Memory verse Picture/Drawing of a praying boy or girl
BIBLE STORY	Daniel 10:1-14 Daniel prayed unceasingly
QUESTION & ANSWER TELL	A. Why did Daniel wait and pray continually for 21 days? (A period of time is sometimes necessary and important) B. Why do our spiritual enemies work to hinder us from praying to God? (so we do not become strong/effectual)
PRAY	<u>Pray according to Matthew 6: 9-13 (LORD's prayer)</u> – Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name. Your Kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our debts as we also have forgiven others. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from the evil one. For yours is the Kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen. Pray for your family members or friends to find joy.