

Part 4: Intriguing Verses on Prayer Todd King, Lead Pastor January 31 & February 1, 2015

1 John 5:14-15

This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him.

God hears us

How can we know God's will?

- 1. The Bible
- 2. The Holy Spirit

2 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

Pray continually

"Pray without ceasing" is about <u>interrupting</u> my life with God's presence so that I will stay <u>focused</u> on him.

Philippians 4:6-7

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Don't be anxious; be at peace

"Success" in Prayer

Psalm 46:10: Be still, and know that I am God

1 Kings 19:12: A gentle whisper

Opportunities for Prayer

- 40 Day Prayer Covenant/Kids Prayer Covenant Prayer Covenant cards are available in the Commons
- 24/7 Prayer Wall Pray at home for a full hour at a specific time every week to help create a 24/7 covering of prayer; sign up at the 24/7 Prayer table in the Commons
- Receive and pray through Grant's weekly prayer letter sign up at the 24/7 Prayer table in the Commons

Small Group Questions

- 1) Prayer is something we don't often talk about. Be honest—what is the hardest part of prayer for you?
- 2) How would you describe your prayer life right now? Do you have a routine? Do you feel connected to God? Have you ignored it for a while?
- 3) Review the prayer passages in this outline (1 John 5:14-15, 2 Thessalonians 5:16-18, Philippians 4:6-7, Psalm 46:10). What spiritual truth sticks out the most to you?
- 4) The next exercise may be really hard. Take 15 minutes and be completely silent as your group practices prayer. Invite everyone to focus on the Lord's Prayer in Matthew 6:9-13.
- 5) What did you experience in prayer? What was hard? What was easy? What did you hear?
- 6) How can we pray for you right now and throughout the week?

