

11.17.21 – A Weekly Word for Covenant Church

Title: “Prioritizing Prayer”

Scripture Reading: [Colossians 4:2-6](#)

Reflection: Pastor Henry

Priorities. We all have them. Some priorities we share with others. Some we don't. Priorities come in all kinds of shapes and forms. Some prioritize exercise. Every morning at 5 am they are getting up to head to the gym to work out. For others, their priority is their car or truck. They have the unlimited wash pass at Mister and use it multiple times a week to keep their vehicle looking clean and shiny. For others, their social media feeds are what they prioritize. They focus their time and energy on cultivating, crafting, and creating what they post on their social media feeds each day. Priorities. We all have them. If you had to identify your priorities in life, what things would make your top ten priority list?

In our text and sermon for this week, both the Apostle Paul and Pastor Doug urge us to make prayer a priority in our lives. When it comes to things that we prioritize, things that we devote our time, energy, and resources to, both Paul and Pastor Doug plead with us that prayer should be at the top of this list. “Devote yourself to prayer...” Paul says. Don't miss out on the privilege of being able to “...speak directly to God...” or miss out on the “extra-ordinary opportunity to sit at the feet of Jesus...” when you pray Pastor Doug says. Talk with God in prayer about all the different people, situations, and things going on in your life and in the lives of people around you. Pray prayers of gratitude and thanksgiving. Pray prayers for blessings and encouragement. Pray prayers for healing and wholeness. Pray prayers of intercession. Devote yourself to praying for the people (employer, employees, co-workers, customers, etc.) and situations in your work life. Devote yourself to praying for the people (parents, children, siblings, spouse, extended family members, etc.) and situations in your home and family life. Devote yourself to praying for the people (teachers, classmates, administrators, support staff, teammates, etc.) and situations in your school life. Devote yourself to prayer.

And unlike many of the other things that we devote ourselves to, the unique thing about prayer is that we can pray at any time and anywhere. We don't need to go to a specific place like a gym, or car wash, or coffee shop, or the office, or school to devote ourselves to and prioritize prayer. Instead, we can pray in all these places plus so many more. Because you and I can pray to God at any time and anywhere, this makes it just that much easier to devote ourselves to prayer. I know of people who devote themselves to the practice of prayer in a wide variety of different ways. I know people who pray for their neighbors while walking their dog, who pray for their family members while folding each of their clean pieces of laundry, who pray for their co-workers while driving to work each day, who pray for the teachers and students at their school while riding the bus, and who pray for each of the people that show up through their social media feeds. Four unique ways (out of hundreds of different ways) to prioritize and devote themselves to prayer.

In what ways are you prioritizing and devoting yourself to prayer?

Prayer:

God, you call out to us to devote ourselves to prayer. Jesus, you modeled for us a life devoted to prayer. Spirit of God, enable us to prioritize prayer in our lives and devote ourselves to it. AMEN.

Action Item for the Day/Week:

What is one 'new' way that you can prioritize prayer in your daily rhythm this week? Do it!

Songs for today:

[What A Friend We Have In Jesus](#)

[Blest Be the Ties That Binds](#)

[Lord Listen to Your Children Praying](#)