

Prayer – what's the point?



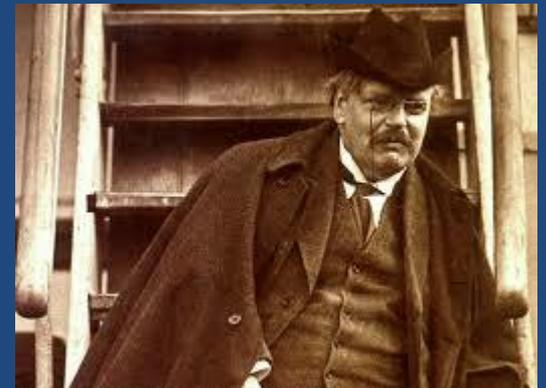
“No one in his senses, if he has any power of ordering his own day would reserve his chief prayers for bedtime – obviously the worst possible hour for any action that needs concentration.”

C.S. Lewis

Prayer – what's the point?

“The Christian ideal has not been tried and found wanting; it has been found difficult and left untried.”

C.K. Chesterton



Prayer – what's the point?

'...they were holding golden bowls full of incense, which were the prayers of the saints.' (Rev. 5:8)

Prayer – what's the point?

Our Prayers Matter

'The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.' (Jas.5:16)

*'[God] has delivered us from such a deadly peril, and he will deliver us... as you **help us by your prayers**. Then many will give thanks on our behalf for the gracious favour granted to us **in answer to the prayers of many**.'* (2 Cor.1:11)

Prayer – what's the point?

Paul was Prayerful

'I want you to know how much I am struggling for you.' (Col.2:1)

Prayer – what's the point?

Paul was Prayerful

Paul was Persistent

*'We have not stopped praying for
you.'* (Col.1:9)

Prayer – what's the point?

Paul was Prayerful

Paul was Persistent

Paul was Particular

*'We do not know what we ought to pray for,
but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with
groans that words cannot express.'*

(Rom.8:27)

Prayer – what's the point?



Paul prays that the Colossians would:

- Be filled with the knowledge of God's will (through spiritual wisdom and understanding)
- Live a life worthy of the Lord
- Please him in every way
- Bear fruit in every good work
- Grow in the knowledge of God
- Be strengthened with all power
- Have great endurance and patience and
- Joyfully give thanks to the Father

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- *“**Heavenly Father** I pray that this day I may live in your presence and please you more and more.”*
- *“**Lord Jesus** I pray that this day I may take up my cross and follow you.”*
- *“**Holy Spirit** I pray that this day you will fill me with yourself and cause your fruit to ripen in my life – Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness and Self-Control.”*

John Stott

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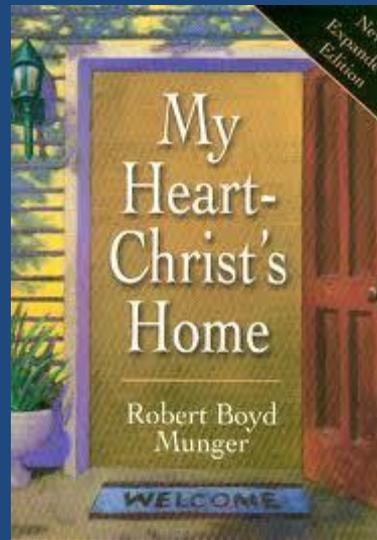
“My faith in Jesus Christ, my experience of his saving power and love, is the single most precious thing in the world to me – and I really believe it is the most precious thing any human being on this earth can have. I also believe that **a relationship with Christ is the most important thing a person can have...** I know first-hand the fullness of life, the peace, and the joy that this relationship gives.”

‘Letters from a Skeptic’

Prayer – what's the point?

'My Heart, Christ's Home'

(Robert Boyd Munger)



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