



CELL GUIDE 2015

Theme	Jubilee – Year of Compassion
Topic	Keys to Always Pray (Part 1)
Speaker	SP Daniel Foo
Date	1 st and 2 nd August 2015

Message Summary

Spiritual Objective: The Power of Prayer

As a true believer, the most important thing that we must do is to pray continuously. Praying is a form of relationship and communication with God. With increasing lawlessness and corrupted minds, it is all the more that we need to pray with all of our hearts. In this sermon, SP Daniel Foo shared with us the reasons for praying and the laws of prayer.

I. Why do we need to always pray?

1. We are living in times of increasing **lawlessness**

Matthew 24:12a tells us that wickedness and calamities in the world will increase in intensity and frequency (eg. ISIS, LGBT Activism) as a result of the spirit of lawlessness. As disciples, we cannot be ignorant as the Spirit has explicitly stated that more people will depart from their faith by succumbing to the evil spirits and losing their conscience of right or wrong (*1 Timothy 4:1-2; 2 Timothy 3:1-5*).

2. Many believers will be **corrupted** by the culture of the world

The culture of the world is creeping through social medias, schools and especially believers whose minds and lives are not rooted to the Word of God. We have been informed in *James 1:27* that the church that is ready for Jesus' coming is without spot and without blemish. Today, people want to have a religion without relationship; to be forgiven without repentance. However, forgiveness only flows with repentance. What we need is a people who are passionate about God, and that begins with personal revival. We need to get into the Word of God and truly experience God so that we may escape from the corruption in the world.

3. Many will **abandon** their faith in God

When people depart from their faith and reject God by their will until their last breaths, they would have committed apostasy; they would have lost their salvation. *Matthew 24:10* affirmed that many will stumble and turn on one another. There are many instances where people abandon their faith in times of crises, instead of trusting God through prayer and acting on His Word (*Luke 18:8*). We are always learning about God, but are we really coming to the truth, the way and the life – Jesus Christ? Let us overcome the world with our faith, for whatever is born of God will be victorious (*1 John 5:4-5*)!

4. Many will **dis-connect** from the love of God

Today, we have better networks, yet we're more isolated than ever before. It goes the same for our relationship with God. We, as believers, must intentionally want to connect with God by doing His work and praying to him continuously. We can never love God on our own unless we experience and abide in His love (*1 John 4:10*), for our love comes from God's love. We need to walk very closely with God, and entrust ourselves to Him to keep us from falling; to avoid being dis-connected from God. That is why we must pray, and we must do it continuously in order to stay connected with God.



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II. Understanding the laws of prayer

SP Daniel Foo highlighted several significant laws of prayer:

- In God's Sovereignty, amongst other things, God has given man a free-will (*Deuteronomy 30:19*) and has placed laws and principles of life for man on earth. (*Psalms 115:16*). These laws include how man connect with God (*Romans 10:13, Jeremiah 33:3*): God wants us to be humble so that we can receive more grace from Him.
- We begin our relationship with God by **believing** and **receiving** Christ Jesus into our lives (*Romans 10:9-10*), Thereafter, we continue our relationship with God by **connecting** with Him through prayers.
- God gives us the Holy Spirit to dwell in us to be our **Helper – Alongsider** (*1 Corinthians 6:9*). Hence, we need to pray, as praying is conversation with God. We learn to pray by praying about everything anytime and anywhere, and we do it continuously.
- There are 3 fundamental ways we commune with God: By abiding in His **Word**, by **prayer** communion, and by giving **thanks**; rendering **praise** and **worship**.
- We need to pursue a **guilt-free, no-condemnation** relationship with God. This is possible because forgiveness is always available to those who are repentant. We can always connect with God by the blood of the Lamb, and through Jesus, our High Priest (*Hebrews 10:19-22*). Therefore, go to God with confidence and eagerness.
- We are exhorted to pray **without ceasing** (*1 Thessalonians 5:17*). Sometimes, our prayers may go unanswered. However, do not give up but persevere on.
- When we do not connect with God in prayer, things in our lives will revert to the **natural** laws of life. SP Daniel Foo gave an example about saying grace before we eat. If we are disconnected with God, natural laws will prevail if the food is unclean. However, if we connect continuously, the supernatural will happen: God can sanctify the natural laws. God responds to faith, not to needs (*2 Corinthians 5:7*), and He will reward us when we diligently seek Him (*Hebrews 11:6*).
- God will therefore **not** unilaterally and randomly **intervene** in the affairs on earth unless we pray, for He is simultaneously righteous and just (*Jeremiah 9:24*). Praying is the earthly license for heavenly intervention.
- Our prayer of faith is the hand that reaches out to God to receive the Grace that we need. It is the altar we build to connect our earth to heaven, where God's grace is abundant.
- Our prayer creates the ladder on which God commands the angels to descend and ascend to minister to us (*Hebrews 1:14*)

Conclusion

Let us not fall victims to the culture of the world, but "come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need" – *Hebrews 4:16*. We must always pray for prayer is our life-line to God!



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Questions

1) What has the sermon taught us about the need to pray?

(Fill In Answer Here)

2) What is your personal motivation for praying, and how has this changed over the years?

(Fill In Answer Here)

3) Is there an area you have been praying about but have not experienced a breakthrough yet? How will you persevere in this area?

(Fill In Answer Here)