

Saturday Afternoon, Nov. 6 4:10 p.m.
Breakout Lecture Session Family Room

Lord, Teach Us to Pray Mike Winkler

“One of His disciples said to Him, ‘Lord, teach us to pray’” (Luke 11:1). A personal prayer life was not only taught by Jesus but it was modeled in His life—praying all night and early in the morning; withdrawing from everyone and everything to be alone with God; praying with fervency and earnestness; praying before making major decisions, when difficulties arise and when you don’t know where else to turn.

Introduction

1. Jesus has taught us to pray by:
 - a. The instruction of His “Model Prayer” (Matt. 6:8-13).
 - b. The demonstration of His “Model Prayer Life” (Mark 1:35; 6:46; Luke 5:16).

I. Jesus Prayed When He Had to Make Difficult Decisions (Lk. 6:12-16).

- A. NOTE: Jesus prayed all night before selecting the 12 apostles.
- B. QUESTION: “Do we pray for wisdom before making important decisions about our lives?”
- C. If we love God with all our heart, mind, soul and strength (Mark 12:30), it should be natural for us to talk to God about these things (and others) that are important to us.

II. Jesus Prayed After Encounters with Difficult People (Lk. 6:2-12; Mt. 5:43-48).

- A. The Pharisees were the:
 1. Most difficult people Jesus dealt with (Matt. 23).
 2. Ones who plotted for His arrest (Matt. 12:14; 26:1-4).
 3. Ones who called for His crucifixion (Luke 23:13-21).
 4. Ones who attacked His character after He was dead (Matt. 27:62-64).
- B. REMEMBER: We, like Jesus, are going to encounter difficult people. Thankfully, we can/will deal with them properly, while maintaining the right attitude toward them, if we will talk to God about them (Matt. 5:43-48; cf. Rom. 12:17-21; 1 Thess. 5:15, 17; Col 4:2).

III. Jesus Prayed After He Was Baptized (Mt. 3:13-16; Lk. 3:21-22).

- A. QUESTION: Why was Jesus baptized? Today, why are we baptized?
 1. Jesus – To fulfill all righteousness (Matt. 3:15)
 2. Mankind – For the forgiveness of sins (Acts 2:38; 22:16; Mark 16:16; 1 Pet. 3:21)
- B. The implication is that Jesus prayed while still in the water (Lk. 3:21)!

- C. Two things that will help every new babe in Christ [and mature ones too] grow spiritually:
 1. Let God speak to us everyday – through His word [i.e. the Bible] (Acts 17:11; Ezra 7:10).
 2. Seize the opportunity to talk to God everyday [i.e. pray] (Luke 18:1; Col. 4:2).

IV. Jesus Prayed After a Long Day’s Work (Matt. 14:13-23).

- A. It is interesting to take note that Jesus:
 1. Would begin His day with prayer (Mark 1:35).
 2. Would end His day in prayer (Matt. 14:23).
- B. QUESTION: How many of us put in a hard day at work, only to come home thinking we do not have the time/energy to invest in Bible Study and prayer? How many days a week do we feel this way?

V. Jesus Prayed When He Was Dying (Matt. 27:46; Luke 23:34, 46).

- A. Of the seven times Jesus broke His silence at Calvary, three were prayers to His Father!
 1. Prayer #1 – Luke 23:34 – “Father, forgive them”
 2. Prayer #2 – Luke 23:46 – “Father, into your hands”
 3. Prayer #3 – Matt. 27:46 – “My God, My God why ...?”
- B. In death, Jesus did what He did so often throughout His life!

VI. Jesus Prayed When His Heart Was Broken (Luke 22:39-46).

- A. In Gethsemane, we find Jesus in His darkest hour.
 1. He wants to live, but, He needs to die.
 2. He loves life, but, He loves us too much not to die.
 3. His emotional trauma is so intense, “His sweat became like drops of blood, falling down upon the ground” (Luke 22:44).
- B. QUESTION: What did Jesus do in the midst of this ordeal?
ANSWER: He prayed (Heb. 5:7)!

VII. Jesus Prayed When He Was Burdened (Luke 9:28-31).

- A. Jesus’ transfiguration actually began while He was praying. While being visited by Moses and Elijah, they “were speaking of His departure [decease, NKJV], which He was about to accomplish” (v. 31).
 1. QUESTION: “What was weighing heavy on the Lord when the two appeared? – Calvary!
 2. REMEMBER: Jesus’ heart was so heavy over the prospects of Calvary – He prayed!!!
- B. Today, we are instructed to talk to God about everything we are burdened/worried about (Phil. 4:6-8; 1 Pet. 5:7; Psa. 68:19).



Mike Winkler has been preaching the gospel for 40 years. He currently preaches for the Madison church of Christ in Madison, Alabama. He and his wife, Pam, have three children and five grandchildren.