

Going Deeper

Your weekly guide to understanding God with others

The Engine Room - Part 2

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Introduction

Prayer is the engine room of every believer's life. The great thing about prayer is that we can do it anywhere, anytime and about anything. We can be devoted to prayer if we are devoted to Jesus, and our devotion to Jesus comes from hunger for God. If prayer is our engine room, we need to make sure it is maintained well, regardless of the circumstances and challenges we face.

Read Colossians 4:2

Discuss

1. Given that prayer is the engine room of our lives, how full is your tank right now, on a scale of 1 to 5 (5 being full)? What difference would it make to your life if your engine room was fully fuelled?
2. Pastor Mark offers several reasons why we struggle to pray: apathy, lack of discipline, self-focus, not knowing how to pray, lack of faith and busyness. Discuss with the group what these reasons look like in practice. Have you experienced any of these? What helped you overcome it?
3. Colossians 4:2 teaches us to devote ourselves to prayer. What is your understanding of the word "devotion"? Are you currently devoted to something?
4. Our reading also urges us to be watchful. Pastor Mark reminds us to be observant and aware of God's movement and activity around us so we can pray more. Think of what's been happening around you this week. Who or what could you be praying for?
5. Read 1 Peter 5:8 and Ephesians 6:18. In these passages, we are reminded to be watchful and alert. What is it that Peter reminds us to be alert to? What about Paul? Why do you think the passages remind us to be alert for these things?

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6. Lastly, we are taught to be thankful. Whether we are living in plenty or scarcity, God's grace upon us is sufficient. What blessing have you overlooked today, that you could be thankful for?

Respond

Our devotion to and intimacy with Christ inspire us to pray more. Intimacy and activity go hand in hand. If we are intimate with Christ, if we are praying more and more, then there will be an outward expression of this. What can you do this week to become more devoted to Christ? Think of one thing that God has been waiting for you to do. Pray and do it.