

**GENERAL SUBJECT:
THE GOD-ORDAINED WAY**

Message Eight

**The Life of the God-ordained Way—
The God-Man Living (2) —A Life of Prayer**

Scripture Reading:

Mark 1:35	And rising very early in the morning, while it was still night, He went out and went away to a deserted place, and there He prayed.
Luke 5:16	But He Himself often withdrew in the wilderness and prayed.
Matt. 14:23	And after He sent the crowds away, He went up to the mountain privately to pray. And when night fell, He was there alone.
Matt. 6:6	But you, when you pray, enter into your private room, and shut your door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will repay you.
1 John 1:3	That which we have seen and heard we report also to you that you also may have fellowship with us, and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ.
1 Thes. 5:16-18	Always rejoice, unceasingly pray, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.
Eph. 6: 18	By means of all prayer and petition, praying at every time in spirit and watching unto this in all perseverance and petition concerning all the saints.
Matt. 26:41	Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.
Ezek. 36:37	Thus says the Lord Jehovah, Moreover for this I will be inquired of by the house of Israel to do it for them; I will increase them with men like a flock.

I. Jesus was a man of prayer, a man who lived in the presence of God continuously (Matt. 14:23; Mark 1:35; Luke 5:16; 6:12; 9:28):

- A. He lived in the presence of God unceasingly, and He trusted in God under any kind of suffering (John 8:29; 1 Pet. 2:23b).
- B. In Him, Satan had no chance, no hope, no possibility in anything (John 14:30).
- C. His prayers were divine yet in a human life (1 Tim. 3:16a).
- D. The Lord's prayer for God's elect shows that we should not hurry to do things in a natural way but should do everything in God (Matt. 9:36-38; Luke 6:12-18).
- E. By His prayer before feeding the five thousand, the Lord trained His disciples that they needed the blessing from the source in order to benefit others (Matt. 14:19).
- F. The Lord did not remain in the issue of the miracle with the crowds but went away to be with the Father privately on the mountain in prayer (Matt. 14:23).
- G. We should not only pray with others, but often we should pray by ourselves privately to enjoy the Lord deeply (Matt. 6:6).

II. Prayer makes us vital (Phil. 1:19-20):

- A. Prayer is the only way to be vital (Eph 6:18; 1 Cor. 6:17).
- B. Each one must pass through the stages of fellowship, confession, reconsecration, and a prayer life to be filled with the Spirit and become vital persons (Phil. 1:19-20):
 - 1. First, we should have a thorough fellowship with the Lord (1 John 1:3-9).
 - 2. We will be stirred up for the Lord in our first love through our repenting prayers.
 - 3. Then we must reconsecrate our entire being to the Lord—body, soul, and spirit (2 Cor. 5:14-15).

4. We should redeem every moment by constantly and unceasingly exercising our spirit to pray (1 Thes. 5:16-18).
5. By praying, calling on the name of the Lord, and talking to Him throughout the day we will become men of God (Eph. 6:18).

III. We should learn to pray in a new way to meet the new need (Rom. 1:9; 2 Tim. 1:3):

- A. When we pray together, we should care for others by revolting and rebelling against our natural being (Mark 9:29; Gal. 2:20).
- B. In the prayer meeting, we should not care for our habitual prayer but should release our spirit in our prayer (Eph. 6:18a).
- C. We should pray short prayers simply telling the Lord what we want.
- D. "These all continued steadfastly with one accord in prayer" (Acts 1:14 and note 1).
- E. We need to be watchful, on the alert, to maintain our prayer life (Eph. 6:18b).
- F. We should budget our time each day for prayer (Dan. 6:10b; Matt. 26:41).

IV. All of the saints should endeavor to attend the prayer meeting of the church and to pray for the increase of the church (Acts 12:5b, 12):

- A. In the 1960s in Elden Hall, at least seventy percent of those who attended the Lord's Day morning also attended the prayer meeting.
- B. We should claim the Lord's promise in Ezekiel 36 and inquire of Him for an increase of number—"Oh Lord, flock people in; You promised this to us!" (vv. 37-38; 1 Tim. 2:4).
- C. In our vital groups, we also need to pray for our acquaintances (Matt. 9:36-38):
 1. We need to review all of our acquaintances, make a list of them, and pray over the list regarding who to take care of first.
 2. We should pray for the Lord's new leading regarding who to visit.