

**Anytime...**

**Anywhere...**

**Without Ceasing**

## **Ever wonder what God's will is for your life?**

**1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 (NKJV)** <sup>16</sup> Rejoice always, <sup>17</sup> pray without ceasing, <sup>18</sup> in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

## **Ever wonder how God hears & answers prayers?**

**1 Kings 8:26-27 (ESV)** <sup>26</sup> Now therefore, O God of Israel, let your word be confirmed, which you have spoken to your servant David my father. <sup>27</sup> But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Behold, heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you; how much less this house that I have built!

# The primary reasons for prayer in scripture

Thanking God

Honoring & praising God

To unify the church

For God's perfect will

Asking for help for various needs

Salvation for us & others

Confessing & forgiving

Healing (phys., spir., emo., etc.)

Provision and direction

Wisdom and discernment

Deliverance & imprecation

# The Power of Prayer in the Old Testament

1. Moses prays for mercy and God's presence for all of Israel.
2. Gideon receives confirmation through prayer to the Lord about confronting incredibly frightening odds against the Midianites.
3. Hannah prays first from a grieving heart- then a joyous one.
4. David's prayer for mercy in Psalm 51 and thanksgiving in 32.
5. Solomon's prayer for wisdom.
6. Elijah prays for God's power to be displayed as 1 prophet of Yahweh faces off against 450 prophets of Baal.
7. Hezekiah's prayer for deliverance from the mighty king of Assyria.

# **The Power of Prayer in the New Testament**

1. Jesus models prayer for us and provides the model prayer.
2. Jesus thanks God that He always hears him as He gets ready to raise Lazarus.
3. Jesus prays for His disciples and for all of us who will believe in Him so that we would be one as He and the Father are one.
4. Jesus prays for Peter's faith and that he'll return after his denials.
5. Jesus prays to forgive those who are crucifying Him.
6. The disciples pray during the first Pentecost that followed the resurrection.
7. Christians pray for the church and for the lost to receive salvation.

# Did Jesus receive everything He asked for in prayer?

**Mark 14:36 (NASB)** <sup>36</sup> And He was saying, "Abba! Father! All things are possible for You; remove this cup from Me; yet not what I will, but what You will."

## Was God's answer to that prayer ultimately good?

**1 John 5:14-15 (NKJV)** <sup>14</sup> Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.

<sup>15</sup> And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.

Do you have enough reasons to pray without ceasing?  
When you pray, will you accept the outcome that's according to God's will, even if it's not according to yours?