

CTW: Acts 4:1-12

Reading: I Timothy 2:1-8

AGD: What is the most influential thing you have ever done? I suppose you didn't name what I was thinking—Prayer.

Prayer is not something Christians do it should in fact be the cornerstone of our discipleship. We've had a few sermons recently on hearing from God and seeing with spiritual eyes and prayer is the medium for that to happen. Your spiritual harvest will never be greater than your prayerful plantings. Your spiritual house will never be greater than your cornerstone of prayer.

1. "First"
2. Supplications (asking), prayers (blessings), intercessions and thanksgivings "be made for all people"
3. For rulers
4. This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior
 - a. Desires for all people to be saved
 - b. Desires for all to come to the knowledge of the truth (about Jesus)
5. There is one God and one mediator between God and human beings—Christ Jesus
 - a. Gave His life as a ransom for "all"
 - b. A good news at the right time
 - c. And I'm preaching it!
6. People should pray
 - a. In every place
 - b. Be holy/worship
 - c. Lift hands—the body in prayer
 - d. Without anger or quarrelling
 - i. Ever notice how Jesus won't be an arbitrary?
 1. My brother wont divide the inheritance
 2. "Blessed is the womb!"
 - ii. We wage war—we want what we want and we want God to give it
 1. How about for others we pray for their benefit and blessings?
 2. How about for ourselves we entrust our needs to God?
7. We could pray
 - a. We could pray for people when God brings them to mind
 - i. examples
 - b. We could pray for our leaders (God knows they need it!)
 - i. Nebuchadnezzar
 - c. We could pray that the world come to recognize Jesus
 - i. Ever prayed someone's spiritual eyes open?

That might just be our best prayer. A prayer that comes out of who we know Jesus to be, because we live it ourselves (forgiving, gracious, loving) and a prayer that people come to know Jesus and the salvation found only in Him.

What is the place of prayer in your life?