

# IN EVERY THING PRAY

## PRAYING FOR WHAT WE NEED UNDER GRACE

*"Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God."*

*~ Philippians 4:6*

### 1. What Should We Pray For?

- a. "Lord, teach us to pray", b/c we know not what we should pray for – Rom 8:26
- b. How do we make requests if we don't know what to pray for? Phi 4:6
- c. Not knowing and wanting perfection can be paralyzing and prevents us from praying.
- d. What do we need under grace? How do we know? We can learn from God.

### 2. In Every Thing is not For Every Thing

- a. We should know by now that God is not Santa, a vending machine, butler, or congress
- b. Phi 4:6 tells us to pray "*in every thing*", not to request "every thing"
- c. Asking for and not getting makes the heart sick ('hope deferred' Prov 13:12)
- d. The difference concerns when you pray (when you're disturbed), not for what you pray.
- e. 1 Thess 5:17-18 also speaks to when you pray, in any situation, "give thanks"
- f. "In every thing" shows the power of God's grace today – in any time, circumstance.

### 3. God Supplies Our Need

- a. God has given us all we need under grace – 1 Cor 1:5, Eph 1:3
- b. He is the Father of mercies and comfort - 2 Cor 1:3-4
- c. "*always having all sufficiency in all things*" – 2 Cor 9:8, 12:9
- d. What God has done today is greater than with David, and he prays – Ps 105:1-5
- e. In prayer God is not learning what we need, he gives what we need. Phi 4:19
- f. We learn to need his grace, which is to learn the sufficiency of what he gives – Phi 4:11
- g. Being content with what God has given is how we gain what we need in prayer – 1Ti 6:6

### 4. Praying Always

- a. We are told to 'pray always' 'continue in prayer' – Eph 6:18, Col 4:2
- b. "Continuing instant in prayer" is not just to be ready, but to do now – Rom 12:12
- c. In suffering we pray for comfort which comes by the scriptures – Rom 15:4
- d. In abundance we pray for the blessing that comes by giving – Acts 20:35
- e. In pain we pray for the strength of faith to be conformed to Christ – 2Cor 5:7, Rom 8:18
- f. In pleasure we pray to remember God's goodness, and be without offence til that day.
- g. In decision making we pray for knowledge and judgment to approve the excellent.
- h. In life we pray we may walk worthy of the Lord with understanding – Col 1:10
- i. In every thing we give thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

### 5. Praying Under Grace

- a. We pray not because his grace is insufficient, but because we are.
- b. We pray as grace changes the purpose of our perspective, will, mind, heart - 2 Cor 9:7
- c. Grace is what God has given: we don't need more grace; we need its effect in us.
- d. We pray to "acknowledge every good thing" which is in us to see that effect – Phm 6
- e. "All I have needed, thy hand hath provided – Great is thy faithfulness"
- f. If you struggle, a good prayer might be, "Lord, in every thing I need you."