

Teaching Notes for "... Are WE Spiritually Watchful and Praying Today? – Pt 1"

NewSong Church Pastor David Haltom Sunday, November 12th, 2023

Today's Key LifeText: "**Stay awake** (**Watch** ^{ESV}) and **pray**..." **Matthew 26:41** ^{HCSB}

Today's LifeText: **Matthew 26:36-47** ^{Amplified}



On several occasions Jesus sought to _____ His disciples for the _____ prophetic events

...
Matthew 16:21 ^{NLT}, **1 Peter 2:20b-21** ^{NLT}, **1 Peter 3:14** ^{NLT}

Before His crucifixion, Jesus predicted that His disciples would _____ desert Him just as the prophecy of **Zachariah 13:7** had declared they would ... and indeed in **Mathew 26:56** ^{Amplified} that prophecy was fulfilled as "**all His disciples deserted Him and fled (ran away / abandoned Him)!**"

The **first time** Jesus told His disciples to "watch and pray" was in **Luke 21:36**

The **second time** Jesus said to "watch and pray" is shown in our **focal text (Matthew 26:41)** – the night before His crucifixion.

"**watch**" in the Greek means to "**stay** _____ / to **be** _____" which conveys to a **heightened sense of being** _____ & _____ **of your surroundings**; to be on **continuous** _____, to be _____, **fully awake** and **intently** _____!

Despite Jesus' directions to "**watch and pray**," **all** 3 disciples fell asleep repeatedly that night, _____ **3x** to follow Jesus' simple yet all so critical _____! Because of their inability to stay awake and keep watch (stay ready), they failed Jesus by **NOT** being _____ (i.e. _____) when Judas the betrayer arrived with the guards to arrest Jesus (**Matthew 26:56**), **1 Peter 5:8**

Ephesians 6:10-18 talks about _____ and indicates that _____ is a **vital part of the** _____. We are to _____ by being **aware** of the _____ of _____ and of the **Devil's** _____; we are to **pray** because it is God who has the _____ and He has made **prayer** the means by which we _____ with Him and receive His _____.

The Apostle Paul shared the Father's heart & will for **ALL** believers - to be _____ **praying**, and **always giving** _____...
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Jesus knew these **final moments in the Garden** were **divinely critical** for His _____ **to His Father's plan** and the lasting witness of surrendering that it would set for His disciples and all disciples afterwards (which includes us) ...

We also are to _____ **for the divine** _____ **of God, looking to see what He is** _____, _____ **to His call in our own lives & giving Him** _____ as we _____ **His commands** and _____ **Him!**

Watching and **praying** helps _____ our _____ of the **snares (trappings) of this** _____ **world!**
Matthew 26:41, 1 John 2:15-16 ^{NLT}

Jesus is **warning believers similarly today** to **be on the lookout** for any _____ that would _____ / _____ our relationship with God. We are to _____ in Christ (**John 15:5**) and be **ever wary (alert) at all times** of the **enemy of our soul!**

The Apostle Paul shared this same **concern** for the **corruptive** _____ **of** _____ to **be allowed to ever take** _____ ...
Genesis 3:1-6, 2 Corinthians 2:11 ^{EXB}, **1 Corinthians 16:13, 1 Corinthians 15:34** ^{Amplified}

Even professing Christians can be **spiritually** _____ (be **spiritually** _____) in _____ as a **result of our** _____ to **Christ's call to "watch & pray!"**

In **Matthew 26:37-40**, Jesus was rebuking / admonishing the disciples for not remaining awake during the hour preceding His arrest. He was trying to ready them for the huge temptations that were approaching ...
Matthew 26:41, Hebrews 4:15, 1 Corinthians 10:13

"It is **spiritual** _____ **coupled** with _____ that gives one the _____ to _____ **temptations** and _____ **situations!**"
~ Don Hooser, "Jesus' Warning to 'Watch,'" 1.26.2011, UCG.org

Here are three powerful scriptures that teach us _____ to anchor _____ in our "**Watching and Praying**" ...

#1) Ephesians 6:18 ^{Amplified-C}

#2) Colossians 4:2 ^{Amplified}

#3) 1 Peter 4:7 ^{Amplified}

A³ (Accept, Apply & Act)