

## Prayer is a Responsibility

"With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints," Ephesians 6:18 NASB95

We may not always pray because we want to but because we need to. We have needs, others around us have needs, both believers and nons, there are needs in our church and the church-at-large, our community, state, nation and world. What will we do? Wring our hands about the way things are? Complain? Be frustrated? Or do something to change things and people? The latter is preferable.

Do we really believe in prayer? Or better, do we really believe in the living God who created the heavens that amaze us and the earth that sustains us? If so, "All things are possible to him who believes." What should we do?

If what our Lord has said about prayer in so many places is true, it is our responsibility to pray. Action and effort are as over-rated as is our ability over God's ability. The greatest action is prayer. Not that we can always make everything good or right, evil happens. It is not always God's will to avoid all pain. But it is always God's will for good to be the end result, just as victory must come through battle. "Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."<sup>1</sup>

Let's get involved. Let's walk with God and His Spirit. Let's learn where the battle is and learn to follow Him in faith and prayer to effect the outcome where our Lord is at work. Expertise at this won't come overnight nor without some pain of our own. But it will come through perseverance and it's the right thing to do. The needs are desperate, whether they may or may not appear so. Let's take responsibility for our own lives and for those around us through prayer.

**"The end of all things is near; therefore, be of sound judgment and sober spirit for the purpose of prayer." 1 Peter 4:7 NASB95**

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<sup>1</sup> 1 Corinthians 15:57 NASB95