

PRAAYER:

*Where should we
begin?*

“Prayer is an expression of who we are.... We are a living incompleteness. We are a gap, an emptiness that calls for fulfillment.”

--Thomas Merton

“Of all the activities in which the Christian engages... there is surely none which causes so much perplexity, and raises so many problems as the activity which we call prayer.”

--Martyn-Lloyd Jones

PRAAYER IS HARD WORK!

- *There will be times when prayer is difficult!*
- *There will be times when our prayers are filled with doubt and questions.*

PRAYER REQUIRES A DEDICATION TO PERSISTENCE

Luke 11.⁵ Then he said to them, “Suppose one of you has a friend, and he goes to him at midnight and says, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves of bread,’⁶ because a friend of mine on a journey has come to me, and I have nothing to set before him.’⁷ “Then the one inside answers, ‘Don’t bother me. The door is already locked, and my children are with me in bed. I can’t get up and give you anything.’⁸ I tell you, though he will not get up and give him the bread because he is his friend, yet because of the man’s boldness he will get up and give him as much as he needs.

PRAYER REQUIRES A DEDICATION TO PERSISTENCE

Luke 11. ⁹ “So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. ¹⁰ For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.

PRAAYER WILL ENGAGE OUR HEARTS IN THE STRUGGLES OF OTHER

*Romans 15.³⁰ I urge you, brothers, by our
Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the
Spirit, to join me in my struggle by praying to
God for me.*

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*Philippians 18b “Yes, and I will continue to
rejoice, 19 for I know that through your
prayers and the help given by the Spirit of
Jesus Christ, what has happened to me will
turn out for my deliverance.*

PRAAYER WILL ENGAGE OUR HEARTS IN THE STRUGGLES OF OTHER

“We have learned to organize, build institutions, publish books, insert ourselves into the media, develop evangelistic strategies, and administer discipleship programs, but we have forgotten how to pray.”

-- D.A. Carson

**PRAVER USHERS US INTO
SPIRITUAL WARFARE.**



Mt. 7.¹³ “Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. ¹⁴ But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.