
Personal Prayer

Keep Oil in your Lamp

Matthew 25: 1-13

The parable of the 10 virgins speaks of our state of readiness for the Master's return but we can also view the oil in the lamps as our spiritual fuel which enables us to shine brightly in an otherwise dark world. How do we keep our lamps full? How do we keep going when everything seems to be working against us? The only way is to carve out time with our Lord and allow Him to fill us, fuel us, satisfy us and strengthen us.

The Difference

I got up early one morning
And rushed right into the day
I had so much to accomplish
That I didn't have time to pray.

Problems just tumbled about me
And heavier came each task
'Why doesn't God help me?'
I wondered
He answered 'You didn't ask'

I wanted to see joy and beauty,
But the day toiled on grey and bleak.
I wondered why God didn't show me.
He said 'You didn't seek'

I tried to come into God's presence,
I used all my keys at the lock.
God gently and lovingly chided,
'My child you didn't knock'

I woke up early this morning,
and paused before entering the day,
I had so much to accomplish
that I had to take time to pray.

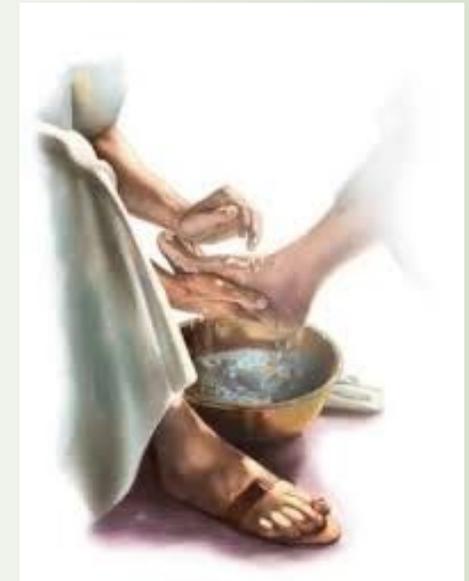
Personal Prayer

Lord, show me how to come into your presence,
Let me know a new dependency on you that fills
and fuels my spirit with the power of your Holy
Spirit. Bring me joy in my heart that can only be
your presence within me so that I can shine out
your love to everyone I meet and in every
situation I find myself.

Lord change me to be your disciple, walking so
close that I am covered in your dust. Let me be
unmistakably yours so that all may know and
see your glory at work in us, your church.

Amen

Prayer Focus October 2014



Family Under Fire – The Persecuted Church

“Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere...”

Ephesians 6:18 (NLT)

NIGERIA

"Girls missing. Churches torched. Hundreds killed. Nigeria is in the grip of an almost unimaginable tragedy.



Rev. Samuel Dali, President of the Church of the Brethren in Nigeria, has said, "We want the Church world-wide to recognise that this is not just our problem. It is the

problem of the whole body of Christ... Dozens of our churches have already been completely razed down and many pastors killed while others have fled along with their members. If the situation does not stop, there is a real danger of eliminating churches in north-eastern Nigeria."

As the wave of violence shows no sign of abating and Islamist militant group Boko Haram acts with impunity, Nigerian bishops have decided that enough is enough. They are calling on Christians at home and around the world to pray for the church in Nigeria.

Please Pray for Nigerian pastors

That the pastors will continue to hold on to Jesus and have strength and courage as they serve his people. Pastors are key to the health of the Church. They are the ones who help Christians make sense of the suffering, who offer comfort and assistance to those in need.

In both Borno and Yobe states the numbers of pastors has diminished drastically. Some were killed, some were abducted, and others were forced to give up and close their churches as their members left the area.

The pastors who remain face many challenges: there is the constant threat of attack, the discouragement of watching their churches shrink, the difficulty of trying to provide for the many who turn to them for help and yet they are determined to stay.

THE WORST EBOLA OUTBREAK ON RECORD

In West Africa the Ebola deaths 'pass 3,000' At least 3,700 children in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone who have lost one or both parents this year face being shunned, the UN children's organization has said. A basic human reaction like comforting a sick child has been turned 'into a potential death sentence' it added.

Please pray for these children that there will be carers and a future for them.

The Ebola outbreak threatens to become a political crisis that could unravel years of effort to stabilize West Africa. 'The worst hit countries now face widespread chaos and potentially collapse' the International Crisis Group (ICG) said.

An 8 member team trying to raise awareness was killed in the south east by villagers suspicious of official attempts to combat the disease.

Pray for the outbreak to be contained, wisdom for leaders and safety for all working within this crisis.

Home Family

Pray for Our Vision

Extended Leadership Capacity

'There will be more leaders at WBC. They will be impassioned and supported to lead with enthusiasm and depth. The leadership will be representative, effective and visible, demonstrating the power and direction of the Holy Spirit.'

Pray that more leaders will rise up from within the fellowship. Ask God to show you potential leaders, pray for them and encourage people to make their gifts known. We need more leaders to spread the load and widen our reach into the community.

Exodus 18:18-23

"You and these people who come to you will only wear yourselves out. The work is too heavy for you; you cannot handle it alone. Listen now to me and I will give you some advice, and may God be with you..... But select capable men from all the people--men who fear God, trustworthy men who hate dishonest gain--and appoint them as officials over thousands, hundreds, fifties and tens. That will make your load lighter, because they will share it with you. If you do this and God so commands, you will be able to stand the strain, and all these people will go home satisfied."