Anxious For Nothing: Finding Calm in a Chaotic World A Study by Max Lucado Based on Philipians 4:4-8

Read

Do not be anxious about anything, <mark>but in **every situation**, by prayer and petition,</mark> with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. Philipians 4:6

¹³ Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise. ¹⁴ Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵ And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven.¹⁶ Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. **The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.** James 5:13-16

Prayer

Remember making "telephones" with 2 soup cans and a piece of string? Worked as long as the string stayed attached to both ends.

- Prayer is the open line of communication between God and His people, between God and those who love Him.
- Think about Matthew 14:22-36; when Peter took his eyes off of Jesus, he began to sink
- When we shift our eyes off of Jesus and onto our anxieties, we like Peter, begin to drown in worry and despair
- Peter's prayer was not eloquent; it was simple and direct...and desperate
- The Holy Spirit within us wants us to remain close to the Father; the Holy Spirit will help you to pray when your words won't come

Prayer is a devotion to God; *Supplication* is humility toward God; a *Request* is a simple petition to God.

Reflection:

- 1. Why is it sometimes difficult to **be specific** when we pray?
- 2. When you are facing problem, what hurdles tend to keep you from taking it to God FIRST?
- 3. Corrie ten Boom famously asked the question, "Is prayer your steering wheel or your spare tire?"
- 4. Are we using the unfathomably endless POWERFUL resource of prayer in our daily walk? The devil certainly hopes not...

This Week: Read Philipians 4:4-8 James 5:13-16 Luke 11: 9 Try to make your prayers more specific, remembering to include your gratitude for what God has already given you.

What you have in Christ is far greater than anything you don't have in life. He is a fountain of living hope that will never be exhausted.

Continue practicing **CALM** each day:

C elebrate God's Goodness

A sk God for Help

L eave Your Concerns with God

M editate on Good Things