

THE SCHOOL OF PRAYER

The first disciples of Jesus Christ could tell early on that He had exceptional knowledge and wisdom. They also observed His life of purity, power and miracles. They probably discussed among themselves His amazing life and ministry, and finally came to understand the source of His power. That led to a request.

'One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When He finished, one of His disciples said to Him.....Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples to pray.' - Luke 11:1 NIV

The disciples did not ask Jesus how to preach or how to witness, but how to pray. Someone has said: 'It is the life that prays.' The life of Jesus was one of prayer and constant communication with the one who had sent Him. The disciples took notice and so did His heavenly Father.

One of my first jobs after college was as an undercover investigator. I would be sent to a place of business to work for about three weeks. I had to write daily four page reports on what I observed and send them back to the main office in Grand Rapids. My reports were written in the third person and I used a three digit agent number in my correspondence. Every other day I would phone headquarters to update my boss on my activities and get any alterations to my assignment. At the end of the three weeks I would return to the main office to my new assignment and location.

Jesus was sent from heaven to earth to accomplish a great mission. He kept in daily contact with headquarters as He and the Father were one in heart and purpose. He had been sent to

'preach good news to the poor, proclaim freedom, heal the sick, release the oppressed and proclaim God's favor in this new kingdom.'

Jesus could not do this alone. Although He always remained deity, He chose to operate as a man who relied on the Father and Holy Spirit. The Jewish leaders got angry with Jesus for calling God **'My Father'** and **'His own Father'** thus making himself **equal with God.**

- John 5:17-18. The term 'His own Father' means 'absolute possession, one's own private, personal unique Father'. The word 'equal' means 'equal as in quantity, to claim the nature, rank, and authority which belong to God.' - Thayer's Lexicon

Although He remained as God, Jesus revealed His dependence as a Son.

'I tell you the truth, the Son can do nothing by himself, He can only do what He sees the Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does. For the Father loves the Son and shows Him all He does' - John 5:19-20

'God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how He went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with Him. - Acts 10:38.

During protracted times of prayer, Jesus was able to receive revelation from the Father about things that would be happening in his next day of ministry and beyond. Jesus had come

from the land of glorious light but was now living in a dark world. In His times of prayer He experienced enlightenment, empowerment and enjoyment. His times alone with God were times of refreshing so that He was ready to meet the challenges of each new day because the victory had already been won in the secret place of prayer.

'Prayer is striking the winning blow. Service is gathering up the results. - S.D.Gordon

'Why pray? God. If you have a small view of God you will pray little. If you know little of God's Word you will pray little. If you know God you will pray. Prayer proves our dependence on God.' - Joy Dawson

The summer of 2014 proved to be a significant season in my life. It began on a Tuesday night prayer meeting at a little country church in western New York state where a small group of young people experienced an outpouring of God's Spirit that carried on for a few years. I will share more about that in another message. In June of 2014, God downloaded two words into my spirit....Write and Disciple. By August, he added another word....Encourage. In September I began to write a weekly teaching message called 'Prayer Agent Messages'. The purpose was defined in the word W.E.D. (Write Encourage Disciple) to prepare the bride of Christ for their royal wedding. In May 2005 and in June 2015, God spoke to me clearly in two separate dreams with these words from two different persons, **'You have a call to the nations.'** In one dream the words were added, **'You will not go by plane but by pen'**. I believe this website: jesusreigns.net is a key factor in it's fulfillment.

The summer of 2014 was a summer of love, where God restored my first love for Him and rekindled the fire in my spiritual life. It began in the spontaneous Spirit led prayer meeting which usually went for two hours and often much more than that. Prayer had become a place of intimacy with God for all of us. Intimacy brings births. God did miracles in our hearts, bodies, lives and and birthed ministries among us. One verse summed up that summer in my life.

***'One thing I ask of the Lord, this is what I seek; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple.'** - Psalm 27:4*

Our lives will have greater eternal significance when we continually rely on God and spend time with Him.

*The School of Prayer : Starts now
The Teacher: Jesus Christ
The Cost: Your time
The Benefit: Those who spend much time with God
will have great impact on man.*

YOU CAN SAVE A LOT OF TIME WAITING ON GOD - Adrian Rogers
