

“Thoughts On Prayer”
(#15 in the “*Epistles Of John*” series)

I John 5:6-13

- I. _____ prayer (I John 5:14-15)
- a. The _____ of God’s hearing (vs. 14)
(Hebrews 4:16a – **“Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace...”**)
- i. How does the Holy Spirit lead/prompt us to pray?
 1. According to His _____
 2. According to His _____
 3. According to His _____
 - ii. Prayer shouldn’t be focused on what _____ want, but rather on what _____ wants!
- b. The _____ of God’s hearing (vs. 15)
- i. If we pray according to the condition above, then we know God _____ us. And if He hears us, then we can be assured in our hearts that He has _____ us! (Hebrews 11:1 – **“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.”**)
 - ii. God will answer in such a way that is for His _____ and for our highest _____.
 1. Sometimes His answer is _____.
 2. Sometimes His answer is _____.
 3. Sometimes His answer is _____.
 4. Sometimes His answer is _____.

- II. _____ prayer (I John 5:16-17)
- a. Our _____ (vs. 16)
- i. Main point: If we see that a “brother” (*i.e. a fellow believer*) is in sin, then we have a duty to lift them up in _____.

(James 5:16 – **“Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.”**)

(Galatians 6:1 – **“Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.”**)

- ii. What does “sin unto death” mean?
 1. It does *not* refer to the “_____ sin”. John is writing to *believers*, and a believer _____ commit this sin!
 2. It *does* refer to sin whose consequence is physical _____.
 - a. When believers sin, there are 3 ways in which God, in His love, deals with them:
 - i. _____
 - ii. _____
 - iii. Calls us _____
 - iii. “I do not say that he shall pray for it”: John is not trying to discourage prayer for backslidden brethren here. However, there are times when we get a clear impression from God to _____. (Jeremiah 7:16 – **“Therefore pray not thou for this people, neither lift up cry nor prayer for them, neither make intercession to me: for I will not hear thee.”**)(Jeremiah 14:11 – **“Then said the LORD unto me, Pray not for this people for their good.”**)
- b. Our _____ (vs. 17)
- i. John is not making light of any sin- it’s *all* considered “_____” in God’s eyes.
 - ii. However, we serve a gracious, merciful, and longsuffering God. We don’t have to get to the point where God has to judge us for our continual sin. _____ and _____ bring _____! (I John 1:9 – **“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”**)