

Continuing in Prayer
2-20-2022

13 Is anyone among you suffering? **Let him pray**. Is anyone cheerful? **Let him sing praise**. **14** Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and **let them pray over him**, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. **15** And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven... **17** Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he **prayed fervently** that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. **18** Then **he prayed again**, and heaven gave rain, and the earth bore its fruit. James 5:13-15; 17-18

“When the devil sees a man or woman who really believes in prayer, who knows how to pray, and who really does pray, and, above all when he sees a whole church on its face before God in prayer, he trembles as much as he ever did, for he knows that his day in that church or community is at an end.” RA Torrey

2 **Continue steadfastly in prayer**, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. Colossians 4:2

- Paul tells us to continue in prayer

Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with an attitude of thanksgiving;
Colossians 4:2 NASB

proskartereō — to persevere , to persist in, to endure, to spend much time in.

42 And they **devoted themselves** to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and **the prayers**. Acts 2:42

46 And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, **47** praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.
Acts 2:46–47

- They were persistent in prayer.

4 But we will **devote ourselves to prayer** and to the ministry of the word.” Acts 6:4

5 And he said to them, “Which of you who has a friend will go to him at midnight and say to him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves, **6** for a friend of mine has arrived on a journey, and I have nothing to set before him’; **7** and he will answer from within, ‘Do not bother me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed. I cannot get up and give you anything’? **8** I tell you, though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet **because of his impudence** he will rise and give him whatever he needs. Luke 11:5–8

8 I say to you, though he will not rise and give to him because he is his friend, yet because of his **persistence** he will rise and give him as many as he needs. NKJV

18 And he told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart. **2** He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor respected man. **3** And there was a widow in that city who kept coming to him and saying, 'Give me justice against my adversary.' **4** For a while he refused, but afterward he said to himself, 'Though I neither fear God nor respect man, **5** yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will give her justice, so that she will not beat me down by her continual coming.'" **6** And the Lord said, "Hear what the unrighteous judge says. **7** And will not God give justice to his elect, who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them? **8** I tell you, he will give justice to them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?" Luke 18:1–8

16 Rejoice always, **17** pray without ceasing, **18** give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. 1 Thessalonians 5:16–18

- Pray for opportunities and wisdom

3 At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison— **4** that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak. Colossians 4:3-4