



THE LORD'S FLOCK GROWTH DIGEST

PASTORAL GROWTH SERIES

13 Problems Caused by Prayerlessness (Part 4)

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In the midst of the big Christmas holiday season, let us not forget the importance of prayer. In our walk with God, 1 hour every morning is extremely important.

What happens when Christians stop praying?

1. When I don't pray, demonic assignments are not cancelled.
 - Satan is like a roaring lion ready for anyone he can devour.
 - Everyday, we have to pray: that the Lord will cover us with His blood; He will forbid the evil spirit from having us; and, rebuke demonic assignments.
 - Trust in God to take care of our family, our business.
 - Put on the armor of God (Eph. 6:10), the Helmet of Salvation, breastplate of righteousness, belt of truth, sandals of peace, shield of faith, and sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God.
2. When I don't pray, the blood of Jesus is not appropriated for protection over me or those I love and pray for.
 - Instead of being discouraged by tribulators, pray for the blood of Jesus to cover us.
 - We need a hedge of protection or we become easy prey to the attack of the enemy. By the blood of Jesus, we are cleansed and healed.
3. When I don't pray, I will be more anxious because I will not have God's peace.
 - The peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus (Phil. 4:6-7).
 - Prayer always removes anxiety. Don't deny people who are scared or anxious; rather, strengthen their faith in God.
4. When I don't pray, I am not strengthening my connection with God.
 - Our relationship with God can be compared to marriage. If we do not talk with one another, how long will the marriage last.

- The more we communicate with Him, the more we become intimate with Him (Jn. 15:7).
 - Pray for discernment how best to serve Him.
 - When we are connected, we let the Lord take over our life. Talk to Him frequently.
5. When I don't pray, I am not opening the door for the Lord to speak to me about important matters.
 - The Lord says you must frequent the company of your elders; whoever is wise, stay close to him (Si. 6:34).
 - When you pray, you become sensitive to the Word of God. We need to listen to the instructions of God. The Holy Spirit will tell you (the word of knowledge and wisdom) what to tell a person in need.
 - God answers prayers. You just need to listen. He speaks about very practical things. When we become too busy, we are distracted, our own thoughts will be competing with His voice.
 - Be sure you are listening, you don't doubt that it is Him.
 - Try your very best to listen, rather than talk and talk.
 6. When I don't pray for long periods of time, I don't get much favor from God.
 - There are times you don't understand or fathom the plans of God. But God is always answering and speaking to us.

(To be continued: # 7 to 13)

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