

February 20, 2022 Scripture: Luke 5:16, we will read Matthew 26:36-40 Title: Having Devotional Time

Introduction: I believe that every Christian should know how to pray. And every leader in the church should know how to pray.

Context: The passage of Scripture that we have read this morning is very familiar. Jesus and his disciples went to a place call Gethsemane to pray. Verse 40 says that Jesus returned and found his disciples asleep. This tells us that it was at night, and they were probably feeling sleepy. But Jesus encouraged them to stay awake so that they can pray with him.



Purpose: The purpose of this sermon is to revive the Spirit of prayer in our lives. There are two things that are important about prayer:

1. It is a tool of communication.
2. Weapon that God has given us.

“The Armor of God” Ephesians 6:10-18

“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes... Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord’s people.”

THREE THINGS THAT WE SHOULD KNOW ABOUT PRAYER IN OUR DEVOTIONAL TIME:

1. **Place.** “Then Jesus went with his disciples to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to them, “Sit here while I go over there and pray.” Verse 36 NIV.
2. **It is okay to share prayer concerns.** “He took Peter and the two sons of Zebedee along with him, and he began to be sorrowful and troubled. Then he said to them, my soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me.” V.37-38 NIV.

Verse 36, “Sit here while I go over there and pray”.

3. **Time.** “He went away a second time and prayed, “My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may your will be done. ‘When he came back, he again found them sleeping, because their eyes were heavy. So he left them and went away once more and prayed the third time, saying the same thing.’ Then he returned to the disciples and said to them, “Are you still sleeping and resting? Look, the hour has come, and the Son of Man is delivered into the hands of sinners. Rise! Let us go! ...”(Matthew 26: 42-46 NIV)

Islamic Religion: For Muslims, the five daily prayer times (called *salat*) are among the most important obligations of the Islamic faith. Prayers remind the faithful of God and the many opportunities to seek His guidance and forgiveness. They also serve as a reminder of the connection that the Muslims have all over the world.

Judaism Religion: Everyone who has been to synagogue knows that we Jews recite the Amidah (silent prayer) three times every day. They pray in the morning, afternoon, and evening.

In 2 Chronicles 6-7, we see the dedication of Solomon’s Temple. While “the whole assembly of Israel was standing there” (2 Chron. 6:3), Solomon prays a dedicatory prayer in which he invokes the presence of God. “Now, my God, may your eyes be open and your ears attentive to the prayers offered in this place. Now arise, O Lord God, and come to your resting place, you and the ark of your might. May your priests, O Lord God, be clothed with salvation, may your saints rejoice in your goodness” (6:40-41).

“Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise. 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. 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. 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 NIV