“THE WORK OF PRAYER”
Colossians 4:12

“Epaphras, who is one of your number, a bondslave of Jesus Christ, sends you his
greetings, always laboring earnestly for you in his prayers, that you may stand perfect
and fully assured in all the will of God.”

Prayer is work. Prayer is work but comparatively few work at persistent prayer. The Apostle
Paul invites the believers in Rome to “strive together with me in your prayers.” (Rom. 15:30)
Consider the work of prayer as follows:

A. WE SHOULD BE EMPLOYED IN THIS WORK ALWAYS.
   - Eph. 6:18 “Praying always with all kinds of prayers…”
   - I Thess. 5:17 “Pray without ceasing.”
   - Acts 6:4 “We will give ourselves continually to prayer…”
   - Acts 12:5 “Prayer was made without ceasing ….”
   - Col. 4:2 “Continue in prayer ….”

B. WE SHOULD BE EMPLOYED IN THIS WORK EVERYWHERE.
   - I Tim. 2:8 “I desire therefore that the men pray everywhere…”
   - Hezekiah prayed in bed – Isa. 38:2.
   - Hannah prayed in the temple – I Sam. 1:12,13.
   - Nehemiah prayed in the King’s Court - Neh. 2:4.
   - Paul prayed in jail, on a ship etc.
   - Jesus prayed on a mountain, in a garden, on the cross etc.

C. WE SHOULD BE EMPLOYED IN THIS WORK FOR EVERYTHING.
   - Phil 4:6 “Do not be anxious about anything, but
   in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present
   your requests to God.” (niv)
   - Matt 9:38-10:1 “pray the Lord to send out laborers into His harvest.”
   - Matt 26:40-41 “Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation.”
   - 2 Cor 13:7 “Now I pray to God that you do no evil…”
   - Phil 1:8-10 “And this I pray, that your love may abound still more”
   - 2 Thess 3:1-2 “pray that the word of the Lord may run swiftly….”
   - James 5:16 “Pray for one another, that you may be healed.”

To really evaluate our prayer life, we need only ask one question: “How much would I engage
in the work of prayer if I had no personal needs?”

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