

PRAYER LESSON 146

God's Work Gets Done Through Prayer

It can be said that prayer is the way God gets his work done here on earth. In the gospels, we read that Jesus prayed to the Father about the work he was doing. Before appointing his disciples, before his arrest and trial, and at other times, Jesus prayed. His work here on earth was an assignment by the Father, and as his work progressed, he had to reconnect with the Father through prayer, from time to time.

The writer to the Hebrews speaks of Jesus' prayer practice in Hebrews 5:7 **During the days of Jesus' life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with loud cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission.** Even God's own son realized the need to maintain a prayer relationship with his Father as he did his work.

We also need to remain connected to the Father as we do the work he has assigned to us. In the his model prayer, Jesus prayed that God's kingdom would come here on earth. This is the work that has been given to us, the bringing of the kingdom to reality here on earth. Paul wrote in Ephesians 2:10 **For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.** It is through our doing these good works that God's kingdom will be seen here on earth.

So, how do we find the Father's agenda for us, the same way Jesus did, through prayer. The key events of Jesus' life were preceded by times of prayer, in the same way, every decision we make should include a request to God for his wisdom in our decision making.

Jesus laid out the agenda for his disciples and for us when he said in John 14:12-13 **I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father.** Notice that the help comes only through prayer.

So, spend time with your heavenly Father and ask him what his agenda is for you. He does have one and he is ready to help you carry out each assignment.