

BOOKLING #1
(by Dave Pikel – Come To Life Ministries)

A Journey to Victorious Praying (Finding Discipline and Delight in your Prayer Life)

by Bill Thrasher

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p.19 “One year I asked God to give me clear insight into my own unhealthy fears. If you do this you may be surprised how significant a motivating force fear is in your life... Look at Psalm 34:4 (NASB): “I sought the Lord, and He answered me, and delivered me from all my fears.”

p.20 “Every time you are tempted to be fearful or anxious, view it as a prompting of the Lord to pray... In prayer we talk to God about our anxiety. We may even need to ask Him what it is that is bothering us.”

p.21 “The more something means to you, the harder it is to trust God with it... The most precious gift of God to Abraham was his beloved son Isaac..

What is your “Isaac”? Are you willing to surrender the matter to God and realize that He is able to guard what you entrust to Him (2 Timothy 1:12)? What *you* try to control is up to *you* to worry about and work out.”

p.27 “I had rather teach one man to pray than ten men to preach.” -*D.L. Moody*

p.31 “Purpose to let every point of temptation lead you into a conversation with God and trust Him to meet the deepest thirsts of your heart.”

p.53 “In prayer I used to ignore my fear or anxiety and seek to continue in my previously determined plan as I sought God. I discovered that at this point of my not paying attention to my heart, true prayer died even though I continued to be involved in the mechanics of it.”

p.54,5 “It was a great breakthrough to realize that God was not necessarily leading me to pray for everything with equal intensity. To try to do so will kill a prayer life. To learn to let God set the agenda of our prayer life will resurrect it. “Trust in Him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before Him; God is a refuge for us” (Psalm 62:8)...

...confessed to Him the many times I had ignored Him by living in a spirit of rush. God knows how to prepare us for all that is ahead as we seek to be attentive to Him...

As we seek to obey the Spirit’s guidance in prayer, let me tell you what will often happen – *nothing!* But sometimes “nothing” means that the Spirit desires to slow us down and lead us into silence.”

p.66 “There are times that we need others to pray with us and for us in order to experience the peace Jesus gives. For this reason God instructs us to help bear each other’s burdens (Galatians 6:2). One way to do this is in prayer.”

p.84,5 “Without prayer the study of Scripture can turn into a merely intellectual exercise. Prayer without Scripture will lack needed motivation and guidance.”

p.95 “I began to see the treasure of these scriptural prayers while first teaching the Prison Epistles. God gave me the privilege to teach this course about fifteen times. It was during these years that the prayers of Ephesians 1:15-23; 3:14-21; Philippians 1:9-11; and Colossians 1:9-12 became very precious to me.”

p.106 “Most of our lives are overextended, and we fail to grasp that if our service does not flow from an abiding relationship with Christ, it is fruit of our flesh and not of the Spirit.”

p.111-8 “Here are four distinct patterns that you can learn from the Gospels.”

1) “*Jesus prayed before the important events and decisions of his life*”

2) “*Jesus prayed after the significant achievements of his life*”

“After success is when it is easiest to be the most prayerless. Do you pray as much after the time of crisis or ministry as before the event?...”

“I have found it helpful to schedule special times of prayer after ministry responsibilities.”

p.123 “Dr. Bill Bright, the founder of Campus Crusade for Christ, in the midst of his demanding ministry said that he longed for the day that he could be promoted from his job as president to the ministry of intercession.”

p.125 “The sin of prayerlessness (compare I Samuel 12:23) brings great harm to one’s own life.”

p.134,5 “One pastor was overwhelmed with his counseling load. He decided to schedule his counseling appointments thirty minutes earlier than he planned to meet with the counselees. When they arrived he told them he would see them in thirty minutes and suggested they spend this time in the sanctuary talking to the Wonderful Counselor about their problem and asking for His wisdom and guidance. The pastor found that many no longer needed counsel after spending that half hour alone with God!”

p.138 “We might not be able to speak in any pulpit we choose, but we certainly can pray for any pulpit. People may not be willing to listen to us, but they cannot stop us from praying for them. We can only be in one place at one time, but our prayers can cover more than one continent.”

p.165 “...the more responsible you feel for the “success” of a ministry endeavor, the greater the temptation to worry and be anxious about it.”

p.181 “*Anxiety accomplishes nothing positive* (Matthew 6:27). Someone has said that worry is like a rocking chair – it gives you something to do but gets you nowhere.”

p.182-5 “*How To Experience God’s Peace*

Let your greatest concern be living under God’s rule in harmony with His truth (Matthew 6:33)...

One common ingredient to worry is assuming responsibility that God never intended us to have...

We can take full responsibility of being a vessel of love to another and can pray for a desired response, but we cannot take full responsibility for the responses of others.

Learn to unburden your heart (Philippians 4:6-7)...”

p.190 “*Why Has God Chosen to Work through Persevering Prayer?*

• To purify our desires... God entrusts us with concerns in order for us to learn to persevere and pray. And as we do, He does a work in us.

• To prepare us for His answer.

• To develop our life and character.”

p.214 “*The key to unceasing prayer and worship is an abandonment of one’s life to the Lord and a continual abiding in Him...* Dr. Stephen Olford explained the human responsibility in regard to appropriating the filling or control of the Spirit using the words *Open, Dependent, and Responsive...*

As you open up your life to the Spirit’s control, you do not get more of the Spirit, but He gets more of you..”