

“People of Prayer”  
Standalone Sermon  
Matthew 6:9-13  
January 6, 2019

**Scripture Reading: Lord’s Prayer | Luke 11:1-2, Matthew 6:9-13**

### **Introduction**

Nine Values of Sound City Bible Church

1. Sound doctrine
2. Prayer
3. Enjoying God
4. Priority of relationship
5. Progress, not perfection
6. Members equipped for ministry
7. Every member a missionary
8. Kingdom-minded
9. Gathered and scattered

## **GOD WANTS SOUND CITY BIBLE CHURCH TO BE A PEOPLE OF PRAYER**

### **I. The Importance of Prayer**

1. No prayer, no salvation
  - a. J.C. Ryle — That a man will receive pardon of his sins, who will not so much as lift up his heart inwardly, and say, “Lord Jesus, give it to me,” this I cannot find. I can find that nobody will be saved by his prayers, but I cannot find that without prayer anybody will be saved. It is not absolutely needful to salvation that a man should read the Bible. A man may have no learning, or be blind, and yet have Christ in his heart. It is not absolutely needful that a man should hear public preaching of the gospel. He may live where the gospel is not preached, or he may be bedridden, or deaf. But the same thing cannot be said about prayer. It is absolutely needful to salvation that a man should pray.
2. Where we find daily mercy | Hebrews 4:16
3. Leads to holiness | 1 Thessalonians 5:23
4. Prayer changes things | James 5:16
  - a. John Onwuchekwa — Prayer is the link in the chain that connects God’s sovereignty to our responsibility.

### **II. Why Don’t We Pray?**

J.C. Ryle — There is everything on God’s part to make prayer easy, if men will only attempt it. All things are ready on His side. Every objection is anticipated. Every difficulty is provided for. The crooked places are made straight and the rough places are made smooth. There is no excuse left for the prayerless man.

1. We forget the **privilege** it is to be able to pray.
2. We don't **persist** in prayer like we should.
  - a. R.A. Torrey — God does not always let us get things at our first effort. He would train us and make us strong men by compelling us to work hard for the best things. So also He does not always give us what we ask in answer to the first prayer; He would train us and make us strong men of prayer by compelling us to pray hard for the best things. He makes us pray through...We should be careful about what we ask from God, but when we do begin to pray for a thing we should never give up praying for it until we get it, or until God makes it very clear and very definite to us that it is not His will to give it.
3. We underestimate the **power** of prayer.
  - a. We can't rely upon our intellect & understanding | 1 Corinthians 8:1, Proverbs 3:5

### **III. The Character of Prayer**

1. Pray to God
2. Pray his will
3. Be bold and humble
4. Specific times and constant
5. Be persistent

### **IV. People Who Pray**

1. Individuals | Set aside times, pray on the spot, journal
2. Families | Teach your children, spouses pray together
3. Groups | Carve out time, keep a prayer list
4. Church | Prayer in worship, prayer team, prayer nights
5. Region | Praying together with other churches

### **Benediction**

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 — <sup>16</sup> Rejoice always, <sup>17</sup> pray without ceasing, <sup>18</sup> give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.