Scripture Reading: Luke 11:1-13

Singing: 339 – 233 – 210 – 431:3-6

**The Christian Prayer**

**I. The *why* II. The *How*  III. The *what***

**I. The *why* of Christian prayer?**

A. It is the ***chief*** *part of thankfulness God requires from His people*

 1. Prayer is to be *thanksgiving expression*

 2. Daily there is *more reason* to thank than to beg!

● *By Him (JESUS) therefore, let us offer the sacrifice of praise to*

 *God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His*

 *Name* (Heb. 13:15)

 ● Eph. 5:17-20 … *giving thanks always for all things unto God and*

 *the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

B. It is necessary for maintaining of a healthy spiritual life

 1. Jesus: *Apart from Me, ye can do nothing* (John 15:4)

 a. what does that imply *about yourself?*

b. what does that imply *about Him?*

 2. Is that such prayer life our picture?Is our poor health (spiritually)

 related to our poor breathing (prayer)?

**II. The *how* of the Christian prayer**

A. The main requisite is *knowledge of God, self and Jesus Christ*

B. How do we *think about God* when we speak to Him in prayer?

 1. consider the revelation in Luke 11:1ff: *the* ***Master in prayer***

 2. Jesus’ parable is a correction to *unbiblical thinking about prayer*

 a. vs. 5-8 is *theology – revelation of God!*

b. vs. 9-13 is *the correction about how to think when praying*

 3. Pray from the heart to Me *as I have revealed you My heart!*

a. Open your mouth wide to pray to God

 b. But first open your mind with meditation on God

C. How do we think *about ourselves* in prayer?

 1. To pray without rights is *the beginning of real prayer*

a. we have lost our rights

 b. in prayer **face** the threefold **facts** of your misery

 2. We ought never to *lose this self-knowledge of flower it up*

C. How do you think *about Jesus Christ*?

 1. Solid ground and access in prayer is *not your frame, feeling or faith!*

 2. Solid ground open access and confidence in prayer is *Jesus Christ*

 Heb. 7:24-25 *But this man, because He continueth ever, hath an*

*unchangeable priesthood. Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.*

 1 John 2:1 *And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the*

 *Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.*

III. The ‘What” of Christian prayer

A. We may pray for *everything He has commanded us to pray for*

 1. Which are *All things necessary for soul and body*

a. prayer is not informing Him of our needs (Matt. 6:8-9)

b. prayer is laying our needs before Him as needs He only can meet

 2. What is are the essential needed?

**Two closing observations** …

A. Our earthly things of daily needs aren’t *first or foremost in importance*

B.Individualism is an unchristian attitude in prayer: *Our – us – we!*

All the storehouses of God

are open to the voice of faith in prayer.

(McIntyre)

Large asking and large expectations honor God. (Stone)

Prayer is not the least we can do; it is the most!

If you are too busy to pray, you are too busy.