

## REASONS FOR PRAYER ~ Psalm 31, 66 & Ephesians 6

→ Scripture Reading - Psalm 31:1-3, 14-17 & Psalm 66:1-4

### PRAYER as PURSUIT of RELATIONSHIP ~ Psalm 31:1-3, 14-17

[1] In you, O LORD, I have taken refuge; **let me never be put to shame**; deliver me in your righteousness. [2] **Turn your ear to me**, come quickly to my rescue; be my rock of refuge, a strong fortress to save me. [3] Since you are my rock and my fortress, for the sake of your name lead and guide me.

[14] But **I trust in you**, O LORD; I say, "**You are my God**." [15] **My times are in Your hands**; deliver me from my enemies and from those who pursue me. [16] **Let your face shine on your servant**; save me in your unfailing love. [17] Let me not be put to shame, O LORD, for I have cried out to you; but let the wicked be put to shame and lie silent in the grave.

#### STATEMENTS SHOWING RELATIONSHIP

- I TRUST in YOU vs. 14
- YOU are MY God vs. 14
- my TIMES are in Your HANDS vs. 15
- Let your FAVOR shine on Your SERVANT vs. 16
- RESCUE me in your UNFAILING love vs. 16

Psalm 51:1-4 (NIV) Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. [2] Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. [3] For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. [4] Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are proved right when you speak and justified when you judge.

#### STATEMENTS SHOWING INTIMACY

- have MERCY on me based on Your Unfailing LOVE vs. 1
- have MERCY on me based on Your COMPASSION vs. 1
- wipe away the STAIN of my REBELLION against You vs. 1
- wash away my WICKEDNESS vs. 2
- CLEANSE me from MY sin vs. 2
- I have sinned AGAINST YOU vs. 4
- I have done what is EVIL in Your SIGHT vs. 4

### APPLICATION

**Psalm 66:18** (NET) If I had HARBORED sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened.

### PRAYER as WORSHIP ~ Psalm 66:1-4

[1] Shout joyful praises to God, all the earth! [2] Sing about the glory of his name! **Tell the world how glorious he is**. [3] **SAY TO GOD**, "How awesome are your deeds! Your enemies cringe before your mighty power. [4] Everything on earth will worship you; they will sing your praises, shouting your name in glorious songs." (NLT)

#### Worship in Prayer

- God Your DEEDS are Awesome
- God Your POWER overwhelms your enemies
- God ALL the earth WILL PRAISE You

#### Worship as an Upward Focus - Honoring God for WHO He is and WHAT He does

**Job 1:20-22** (NIV) At this, Job got up and tore his robe and shaved his head. **Then he fell to the ground in WORSHIP** [21] **and SAID**: "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked I will depart. The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away; may the name of the LORD be praised." In all this, Job did not sin by charging God with wrongdoing.

## APPLICATION

**Psalm 68:4** (NET) Sing to God. Sing praises to his name. EXALT the one who rides on the clouds. For the LORD is his name. REJOICE before him.

**Worship is to EXALT and ENJOY God in ALL circumstances** Unknown

### **WE EXALT AND ENJOY GOD BY...**

- HUMBLING ourselves before Him
- RECOUNTING what He HAS DONE
- RECOGNIZING what He IS DOING

## PRAYER as WARFARE ~ Ephesians 6:10-20

[10] Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. [11] Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. [12] For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. [13] Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. [14] Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, [15] and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. [16] In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. [17] Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. F

➔ PowerPoint of Armor

[18] And PRAY in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints. [19] Pray also for me, that whenever I open my mouth, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, [20] for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.

### **PRAY...**

- in the SPIRIT
- on ALL occasions
- all KINDS of prayers
- being fully ALERT
- with PERSEVERANCE

## TAKE AWAY ??

**HOW we pray is NOT as important - as actually PRAYING**

➔ Prayer Sheet

➔ Prayer Guide

**HOW we pray is NOT as important - as actually PRAYING**