

**A disciple in prayer**  
**I Thessalonians 5:16-18, Matthew 6:6, 9-13**

**I. A disciple understands it's God's will for us to pray I Thessalonians 5:16-18**  
**16 Rejoice always, 17 pray without ceasing, 18 in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.**

- A. What is God's will for us?**
- B. It's God's will that we have a thankful heart.**
- C. It's God's will that we have a consistent prayer life.**
- D. It's God's will that we have a joyful heart.**

**II. A misunderstanding of what prayer is. James 4:3; Luke 18:10 -14; Matthew 6:7**

**A. Prayer is not self seeking James 4:3**

**“When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.”**

**B Prayer is not prideful prayer Luke 18:10 -14**

**10 “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. 11 The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, ‘God, I thank You that I am not like other men—extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector. 12 I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess.’ 13 And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise *his* eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me a sinner!’ 14 I tell you, this man went down to his house justified *rather* than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”**

**C. Prayer is not repetitive prayer Matthew 6:7**

**7 And when you pray, do not use vain repetitions as the heathen *do*. For they think that they will be heard for their many words.**

**III. A disciple puts prayer into practice Matthew 6:6,9-13**

**A. Place for prayer (6)**

**6 But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who *is* in the secret *place*; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.**

**B. Practice of prayer (9-13)**

**9 In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. 10 Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as *it is* in heaven. 11 Give us this day our daily bread. 12 And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors. 13 And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen. (praise/ preeminence)**

1. Vs 9 - person

2. Vs.10 - purpose
3. Vs 11 - provision/petition
4. Vs 12 - pardon
5. Vs 13 - protection
6. Vs 13 - praise/preeminence

### **Conclusion**

- I. It's God's will that we pray - What desire do you need to change to align with God's will?
- II. God corrects our view on prayer - How have you changed your view of prayer this morning?
- III. God gives us a model of prayer - What next steps do you need to take this week to be intentional about your prayer life?