

May 7, 2024

**The Lord wants you to live in His light.**

***Phil. 1:3-7 I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart and, whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God's grace with me.***

I love this passage from the apostle Paul. We can see four main things about Paul's prayer life and his complete reliance upon the LORD. As Paul was encouraging the church at Philippi, he says in verse four, to pray persistent prayers. Paul was a prayer warrior who was always praying. In fact, he tells us to pray without ceasing. It is obvious that one reason that Paul was used so mightily is because he knew the heart of God. He spent time with Him. He talked to God about men, and he talked to men about God. Paul prayed continuously. He was also a praiseful prayer. I'm sure as he was praying, he was remembering the great memories he had of the people there in Philippi. They were partners in the gospel. He says he prays with joy because of this. The jailer and his family, Lydia, and the poor slave girl, were certainly in his thoughts. Even though he was arrested, beaten and imprisoned, Paul counted it all joy! Paul had found the secret of true prayer. He didn't spend all of his time seeking God's hand rather he sought God's heart. Paul was a positive prayer. The source of his confidence was God alone. Paul knew the LORD and he knew that he could do all things through Christ Who strengthened him. We find that blessed assurance in the presence of the One Who gives it. He knew it wasn't his work to do, but it was the LORD's work and He will do it. Lastly, Paul was a passionate prayer. ***It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart.*** Paul prayed with emotion, intensity and fervor. He wasn't praying a written prayer but instead was pouring out his heart to the Father. He was praying to the One and only One Who could give grace. Have you experienced God's grace?

**Dear LORD, help us to seek Your heart today. Help us to be persistent, praiseful, positive and passionate in our prayers. LORD we need to be constantly connected to You in prayer. Help us LORD. In Jesus Name, Amen**