

## PRAYER: THE FIRM FOUNDATION Philippians 1:1-11

### **INTRODUCTION:**

**Prayer is defined as communication with God.** Christians do this by praising God and confessing our sins before Him, thanking Him and asking Him for our needs and desires.

- “Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by **prayer and** supplication with **thanksgiving** let your requests be made known unto God” (Philippians 4:6).

**Paul began this letter to the Philippian Believers with the firm foundation of Prayer – A Model for us to follow. How Should We Pray? Pray with Thanksgiving and Petition.**

### **I. PRAY WITH THANKSGIVING** (vv. 3-8)

- A. **Thanksgiving** – expressing gratitude for having food, clothing, shelter, health, family, church family, friends, journey mercies (Ps 100:4-5; 118:1).
- B. **Paul used the Phrase – “You All” – four times in verses 1-11** (vv. 4, 7, 8)
- C. **The Three Way Fellowship (Partnership)**
- D. **The Three-Dimensioned in Time** (vv. 5-6)

### **II. PRAY WITH PETITION** (vv. 9-11)

- A. **Petition is making a request known unto God – for ourselves as well as for others.**
- B. **Paul was thankful for partnership in Gospel Grace, now his prayer is focus on progress in Gospel growth** (v. 9; Matt 22:36-39)
- C. **Why Paul is Praying** (vv. 10-11; 1 Thess 4:12)

### **CONCLUSION:**

- A. **“Prayer delights God’s ear; it melts His heart; and opens His hand. God cannot deny a praying soul.”** – Thomas Watson
- B. **“Prayer is the link that connects us to God.”** – A.B. Simpson
- C. **According to John 15:5 – Christ’s teaching on the Vine and the Branches – Christ said, ... without me ye can do nothing.”**
- D. **ABC’s of Salvation**
  - **A – Admit** that you’re a sinner and that you cannot save yourself (Rom 3:23, Eph 2:8-9).
  - **B – Believe** that Jesus died on the Cross and rose again for your sins (Rom 5:8, 1 Cor. 15:3-4).
  - **C – Confess**/Call on Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Savior (Rom 10:9-13)

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**“... the word of our God shall stand for ever”** (Isa 40:8).