3 John Series Lesson #005 June 8, 2003

Dean Bible Ministries www.deanbibleministries.org Dr. Robert L. Dean, Jr. 3John 1:2 ¶ Beloved, I pray that in all respects you may prosper and be in good health, just as your soul prospers.

A. Prayer is that grace provision of the royal priesthood whereby the Church Age believer has access and privilege to communicate directly with God; the purpose of this communication is to acknowledge our sin, express adoration and praise to God, give thanks, intercede for others, and convey our personal needs, petitions, and conduct intimate conversations with God.

MAT 6:5 ¶ "And when you pray, you are not to be as the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and on the street corners, in order to be seen by men. Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full.

MAT 6:6 "But you, when you pray, go into your inner room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will repay you.

Matt. 6:7 "And when you are praying, do not use meaningless repetition [battalogia], as the Gentiles do, for they suppose that they will be heard for their many words.

Jesus said, If you abide in me [fellowship] and my words abide in you [doctrine] then ask what you will and it will be done unto you.

## 1TH 5:17 Pray [proseuchomai] without ceasing [adialeptos, persistently, habitually];

## COL 4:2 ¶ Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with an attitude of thanksgiving;

ACTS 2:42 And they were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

1. People lack confidence in being heard because they do not understand confession and cleansing.

## 2. People are ignorant of biblical doctrine related to prayer.

3. People are spiritually ignorant of the mandate to pray so they are too busy, too wrapped up with their own lives, too caught up with temporal things to focus on God.

4. Some doubt God, that He is really there and prayer changes things. They lack faith.

Some have experienced disappointment and frustration, thinking God did not answer they are bitter toward God. But bitterness is always a result of self-centeredness and arrogance.

## 6. Fatalism. But the truth is prayer changes things. I use the acronym CATS

1TH 5:18 in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

EPH 5:20 always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father;

COL 2:7 having been firmly rooted and now being built up in Him and established in your faith, just as you were instructed, and overflowing with gratitude.

COL 1:12 giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.

2CO 2:14 ¶ But thanks be to God, who always leads us in His triumph in Christ, and manifests through us the sweet aroma of the knowledge of Him in every place.

1. Definition: The current ministry of Jesus Christ in heaven whereby He never ceases to petition the Father on behalf of believers, especially with reference to strengthening their weaknesses in times of temptation. (John 17:11, 15)

Rom. 8:34 who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus is He who died, yes, rather who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us.

Heb. 7:24 but He, on the other hand, because He abides forever, holds His priesthood permanently.

Heb. 7:25 Hence, also, He is able to save forever those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.