

**Session #2**

**A STUDY ON COMMON PROBLEMS EXPERIENCED IN THE REALM OF PRAYER**

**PROBLEMS IN OUR PRAYER-LIFE**

**1. Hindrances to Praying meaningfully and effectively**

- |   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| a) The problem of “hypocrisy”               | Matthew 6:5     |
| b) The problem of “wrong influence”         | Matthew 6:7     |
| c) The problem of being unable to forgive   | Matthew 6:14-15 |
| d) The problem of the weakness of the flesh | Matthew 26:41   |
| e) The problem of doubts                    | James 1:6-8     |

**2. Help offered**

- |   |                                  |
|---|----------------------------------|
| a) The Model Prayer (The Lord’s Prayer- Matthew 6:9-13) |                                  |
| b) Personal example of the Lord Jesus                   |                                  |
| i) Spontaneous Prayer                                   | Matthew 11:25-27                 |
| ii) Prolonged Prayer                                    | Matthew 4:1-2 (40 days/nights)   |
| iii) Consistent Daily Discipline                        | Mark 1:35 (Early morning prayer) |
| iv) Special circumstances                               | Matthew 26:36-46 (Gethsemane)    |
| c) Deep insights on Prayer                              |                                  |
| i) The High Priestly Prayer                             | John 17                          |
| ii) The Ministry of Jesus as our Great High Priest      | Hebrews 2-10                     |
| d) The Prayer-life of great servants of God             |                                  |
| i) Moses (Book of Exodus in particular)                 |                                  |
| ii) Jeremiah (Book of Jeremiah)                         |                                  |

iii) David (as recorded and revealed in his Psalms)

### **BASIC PRAYER CONSIDERATIONS (The starting point)**

1. Paul's 1<sup>st</sup> prayer for the Ephesians                      Ephesians 1:15-19

- a) Prayer for the Spirit of wisdom and revelation to do a deep work in our life.    Ephesians 1:17
- b) Prayer for eyes of understanding to be enlightened Ephesians 1:18
- c) Prayer for deep knowledge of what it means to be saved:-
  - i) Hope of God's calling    Ephesians 1:18
  - ii) The riches of His glory of His inheritance in the saints Ephesians 1:18
  - iii) The exceeding greatness of God's power working in us Ephesians 1:19
- d) Measuring our prayers against the benchmark above
  - i) Comparison
  - ii) Contrast
  - iii) Challenge

2. Paul's 2<sup>nd</sup> prayer for the Ephesians (The Next Stage) Ephesians 3:14-21

- a) Strengthened with might in the inner man  
(another work of the Spirit of God)                      Ephesians 3:16
- b) That Christ's Love and Presence Indwelling believers may be fully understood
  - i) Rooted                      Ephesians 3:17
  - ii) Grounded                      Ephesians 3:17
- c) Comprehension of the Love of Christ that passes all knowledge  
Ephesians 3:18-19

i) Length

ii) Breadth

iii) Depth

iv) Height

d) Filled with all the fullness of God      Ephesians 3:19

e) Commended to and Almighty God who is able to accomplish all of the  
above and more      Ephesians 3:20

f) All to be done with the glory of God in mind      Ephesians 3:21

g) Evaluating our prayer requests

i) Comparison

ii) Contrast

iii) Challenges