

Outward Prayer

8/28/2022 – CRBC – Andrew Hancock

Definition of Outward Prayer

- Humbly bringing requests to God for yourself, others, and the world.

Paul's Outward Prayers

- **Ephesians 3:14-19**, they would,
 - Be strengthened with power through Spirit in inner being.
 - Comprehend the great love of Christ.
 - Be filled with all the fullness of God.
- **Colossians 1:9-12**, they would,
 - Know God's will with wisdom and understanding.
 - Walk in a manner worthy of the Lord.
 - Bear fruit in good works.
 - Increase in the knowledge of God.
 - Be strengthened with power, with endurance and patience with joy.
- **2 Thessalonians 1:11-12**
 - God would make them worthy of his calling.
 - That he would fulfill every resolve for good and every work of faith by his power.
 - That the name of the Lord Jesus would be glorified in them, and they may be glorified in him.
- **Romans 15:5-6**
 - For a spirit of unity, that with one heart and mouth they may glorify God.
- **Ephesians 1:15-19**
 - They may have wisdom/revelation to know God better.
 - They would know hope, the riches of inheritance, and the great power available.
 - He would work his mighty strength in them.
- **Philippians 1:9-11**
 - That their love would grow in knowledge and depth.
 - They would be able to discern what is best and be pure and blameless.
 - That they would be filled with the fruit of righteousness.

In John 17, Jesus prayed for three general categories in his Outward Prayer.

- **First, he prayed for himself** (verses 1-5)
 - Glorify yourself through me. Live for God's glory.
 - He accomplished the work God gave him to do. Aware of calling.
- **Next Jesus prayed for others, his close friends, the disciples** (verses 6-19)
 - They would have joy.
 - They would be unified, be one.

- That they would be protected from the evil one.
- That they would be sanctified in the truth, God's word is truth.
- They would be sent to the world on Jesus' mission.
- **Finally, Jesus prayed for believers & for the world** (verses 20-26)
 - That they would be one, so that the world may believe.
 - They would be perfectly unified to show the world God sent Jesus & loves them.
 - That they would see the glory of Jesus and be with him.

Prayer Methods

- **The Lord's Prayer Method**
- **A.C.T.S. Method**
 - A** - Adoration - praise God for who he is, his greatness/goodness.
 - C** - Confession - speak to God about your sin, repent & trust anew.
 - T** - Thanksgiving - thank God for what he has done, his many blessings.
 - S** - Supplication - ask God to work in your life, requests for others, world.

Ideas to refresh your daily prayer and weave in Outward Prayer

- Make prayer a part of devotions.
- You can pray morning and evening.
- Pray right before going to bed.
- Select a literal prayer spot.
- Use prayer prompts.

Ideas on organizing Outward Prayer

- Binder method
- Index Cards
- Make a prayer list with major topics
- Seven Day Prayer Guide
- Organizing prayers for yourself, S.A.L.T.
- Month Prayer Template
- Ask - Answer list
- Prayer app

S - Speaking – I pray my words would encourage others and be wholesome.

A - Attention – I pray that I would listen to people well and be attentive to their needs.

L - Looking – I pray for what I look at, that I would dwell upon what is good and true.

T - Thinking – I pray that what I think about would be good and true.

Revisiting Tim Keller's four categories of a prayer life, the boat metaphor

- **Sailing?** Going well, but lack some consistency,
- **Rowing?** Disciplined, but feels like doing it on own strength.
- **Drifting?** Lack motivation, consistency, and a plan.
- **Sinking?** Prayer life non-existent and feel like spiritually sinking.
 - Healthy prayer is rowing as you sail.