

Join us for
**Generation
 to Generation
 Women's
 Conference**
**September
 25th & 26th**

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**FORTRESS OF
 JOY CHURCH**

Are You Praying?

As a born-again Christian you have an obligation to pray every day. Prayer is the act of communication between two spirits, it promotes a two-way event. When a believer prays correctly, they can expect a response from their Lord.

Luke 18:1 And Jesus spoke to the people, that men ought always to pray and not to turn coward and give up.

Men who are persistent in their prayer will see the Lord move on their behalf. Prayer moves the hand of the Lord because it requires faith and faith pleases our Lord. Prayer is not a one size fits all document that is spoken “religiously” every day. There are all kinds of prayers that are created for a specific need. We must never pray prayers that a man authored unless they are based on God’s holy Word.

Ephesians 6:17-18 Take the sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God: praying with all prayer and requests.

Good News! God had all the prayers we will ever need recorded in His Bible. If we

will take the Word of God praying, we will never pray amiss. Clever people have come up with some beautiful sounding prayers, but they are useless because they are not founded on the Word. It is foolishness to shun God’s Word and substitute our own. When people don’t get a timely answer to their prayers, they turn coward and give up.

Galatians 6:9 Do not grow weary in well doing: for in due season we will reap, if we don’t turn coward and give up.

The One we pray to determines how and when He will answer our prayers. Now lest you question God’s ability let me remind you of something. God gave us our life and He can run it a whole lot better than we can, but we must trust Him. Our part is to pray, His part is to respond to His Word as it pleases Him. I think too many Christians tend to complicate God and get themselves worked up over nothing.

God is in control!!

Christians like to repeat this phrase but then they commence to worry and doubt God’s sincerity. Well, I have news for you, God is not in control! He gave man dominion and man put himself under the control of the devil. When a believer makes Jesus the Lord of their life they give God control. If God was in control of our world, there would not be so much sin and wrath. That day will come, but not until the millennial reign of Christ then Jesus will be in control.

Galatians 5:6 In Jesus Christ circumcision means nothing, but faith which works by love.

We can never take God’s Word and pray it in order to harm someone, because without love faith will not work. No man nor any devil can make a mockery of God. He put “fail safe” mechanisms in His Word

where no man can take advantage of His goodness. A sincere, grateful believer never looks for loop holes or shortcuts. They are sold out to whatever Jesus has said. Amen.



God has given you a tool that will enable you to live above the evil in this world.

From the day you said amen at the end of your sinners prayer, to the day you enter heaven you must live in a fallen evil world. God has given you a tool that will enable you to live above the evil in this world. He has given all His people a vast repertoire of prayers that determine their success in this life.

Mathew 26:41 Watch and pray, that you enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing but the flesh is weak.

How weak is our flesh? It is so weak it will not cooperate with our spirit when it comes to praying. How do most Christians deal with the devil when he comes to tempt them? A lot of them resist for a few minutes, and then they offer a good excuse why they were overcome. What should we do when the tempter comes? Pray. When Jesus was in the garden the night He was arrested, He was tempted to opt out of His crucifixion. He said to the Father if there is another way

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let me take it, but if this is the only way thy will be done. Jesus took the Word of God praying and He resisted the temptation.

Mathew 5:44 Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you and persecute you.

I had some “Christians” who left my church and began to lie about me. When I sought the Lord, He led me to this Scripture and instructed me to pray for those folks. Our flesh isn’t always willing to obey what our spirit must do, but God always knows what’s best. I committed to do what the Lord told me to do, but I didn’t know what to pray over these folks. The Lord gave me another Scripture.

Mathew 7:12 Whatsoever you would that men should do to you, do you even so to them.

The Lord told me to pray this way: whatever I needed I should pray that my enemies receive it. One day I began to realize that everything I prayed for my enemies to have, God was giving to me. They would not receive the blessings I was praying over them, so the Lord gave me all of those blessings. Armed with this revelation, I have no problem praying over my enemies. It’s like the nation of Israel, every time the enemy attacked Israel they were defeated and Israel expanded their borders. Jesse Duplantis says, we can become too expensive for the devil to mess with.

Prayer changes things.

Prayer is an invitation for God to be involved in whatever we pray for. When God is officially invited into our life and issues, His peace will follow right along with Him. I do not pray out of religious tradition, I pray because my life depends on it.



Pray Without Ceasing

If you are in sync with the Holy Ghost you have faith projects that need tending to. There is no set time that we should give ourselves to prayer, but I like to start my day with prayer. I want God involved in my life from the beginning of each day. So, what do we pray for everyday?

Mathew 6:7 When you pray do not use vain repetitions as the heathen do: they think much speaking will catch God's ear.

One night I taught on the subject of prayer and a lady asked me if praying for the same need every day was vain repetition. I couldn't readily answer her question because I didn't know the answer. The answer to her question became one of my prayer projects. I just put this question to the Lord, does praying for the same need every day constitute vain repetition? In less than three days I had the answer.

Lamentations 3:23 The mercies of the Lord are new (reestablished) every morning.

Ephesians 5:16 Improve on your opportunities because the days are evil.

What the Lord wanted me to know is that our prayers are good for the day in which we speak them. If we continue repeating the same prayer every day, that can

become vain repetition. If we pray the same prayer every day until it is answered, we are praying in line with the Word. Folks from the church have testified repeatedly that when they were ill they could feel the prayers of the church.

I Timothy 2:1, 4 I desire that first of all, you pray in intercession for

I Thessalonians 5:17 Pray without ceasing.

We are instructed of the Holy Spirit to establish a prayer life and never lay it down. Praying all the various prayers gets God involved in our lives. When a believer becomes discouraged and worn out, it's because they tried to walk



all men. God's will is that all men come to the knowledge of the truth and be saved.

My church has been interceding for the lost for over thirty years, this is one prayer project that will never end. As long as we are in this life there will be sinners that need our prayers. An intercessor is a selfless person because they give up their own prayer time to pray for people who do not care and more likely hate intercessors. When a sinner repents and gets saved no one celebrates more than the intercessor. Brother Jerry Savelle says that if a church is not interceding for the lost, they will see no new births.

with God without His divine help. Now sometimes I will go to pray to my Lord and I don't ask Him for anything. I spend some time thanking Him and testifying of all the wonderful things He has done for me. Some Christians never talk to God unless they have a problem. Well, God needs to have all of our praise heaped upon Him on occasion. We must remind ourselves daily that He is our Lord and we are His servants. So, establish a prayer life and never even for one day neglect it and you will draw closer to Him.

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FOJ

Fortress of Joy Church
720 Faw Rd
Helena, MT 59602

Phone: 406-442-1819

E-mail: support.fortress@aol.com

FortressOfJoyChurch.com

**Restoring the
supernatural power
of God back
to the local church**

The Perfect Prayer

We have a large number of prayers that the Lord has made available to us. Sometimes we don't know how to pray or what prayer we need to speak. No problem! God has us covered, He sent the Holy Spirit Who knows exactly what we need to pray.

Romans 8:26 The Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness. He prays for us with groanings that cannot be expressed in words.

When we pray in the spirit, that is in other tongues, God knows and that's all we need to know. The devil hates tongues because he doesn't understand, he just knows God's will is being implemented and there is nothing he can do about it. What are we praying when we pray

in other tongues?

Ephesians 6:17-18 Take the sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God, praying.

God does not have a secret will that He keeps from His people. When we pray in tongues we are praying His perfect will. We know what His will is if we know our Bible. The devil hates all this secrecy and this is the reason many

Christians oppose tongues. The devil has turned them away from this beautiful gift of God. When you don't know how to pray or what to pray for, pray in the spirit and you will pray the perfect prayer.

