

**“THE WORK OF PRAYER”  
Colossians 4:12**

***“Epaphras, who is one of your number, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, sends you his greetings, always laboring earnestly for you in his prayers, that you may stand perfect and fully assured in all the will of God.”***

Prayer is work. Prayer is work but comparatively few work at persistent prayer. The Apostle Paul invites the believers in Rome to *“strive together with me in your prayers.”* (Rom. 15:30) Consider the work of prayer as follows:

**A. WE SHOULD BE EMPLOYED IN THIS WORK ALWAYS.**

- Eph. 6:18 *“Praying **always** with all kinds of prayers...”*
- Luke 18:1 *“Men ought always to pray.”*
- I Thess. 5:17 *“Pray without ceasing.”*
- Acts 6:4 *“We will give ourselves continually to prayer....”*
- Acts 12:5 *“Prayer was made without ceasing ....”*
- Col. 4:2 *“Continue in prayer ....”*

**B. WE SHOULD BE EMPLOYED IN THIS WORK EVERYWHERE.**

- I Tim. 2:8 *“I desire therefore that the men pray **everywhere**...”*
- Isaac prayed in the fields – Gen. 24:63.
  - Hezekiah prayed in bed – Isa. 38:2.
  - Hannah prayed in the temple – I Sam. 1:12,13.
  - Nehemiah prayed in the King’s Court - Neh. 2:4.
  - Peter prayed on a housetop – Acts 10:9.
  - Paul prayed in jail, on a ship etc.
  - Jesus prayed on a mountain, in a garden, on the cross etc.

**C. WE SHOULD BE EMPLOYED IN THIS WORK FOR EVERYTHING.**

- Phil 4:6 *“Do not be anxious about anything, but in **everything**, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.”* (niv)
- Matt 9:38-10:1 *“pray the Lord to send out laborers into His harvest.”*
- Matt 26:40-41 *“Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation.”*
- Luke 6:28-29 *“pray for those who spitefully use you...”*
- 2 Cor 13:7 *“Now I pray to God that you do no evil...”*
- Phil 1:8-10 *“And this I pray, that your love may abound still more”*
- 2 Thess 3:1-2 *“ pray that the word of the Lord may run swiftly....”*
- James 5:13 *“Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray.”*
- James 5:16 *“Pray for one another, that you may be healed.”*

To really evaluate our prayer life, we need only ask one question: “How much would I engage in the work of prayer if I had no personal needs?”

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