

MEDITATIONS ON THE TRUE CHRISTIAN LIFE

...."This book of the law [the Word of God] shall not depart from [always be in] your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful [take heed] to do according to all that is written in it; for THEN you will make your way prosperous, and THEN you will have success".... Joshua 1:8 NASB

August 13th

PRAYER AND THE CHURCH

[part 1 of 11]

* A prayer program should have a place in the Church as well as the Sunday School.

In fact no Sunday school can function properly that isn't backed by prayer.

A prayerless ministry is a powerless ministry.

Church history proves that the ministry of prayer makes the ministry of the Word a powerful thing.

We have thought that psychology could take the place of prayer, but it cannot; that education and culture could take the place of prayer, but our present church proves that we are wrong.

A prayerless church is a useless church.

It isn't functioning; it isn't meeting the needs of the congregation.

It is nothing better than a religious club.

Few people ever leave a deeply spiritual, prayer-ruled church to join in the philosophical religious cults of the day.

A prayerless church is a cold church, a sense-ruled church.

A prayerless pulpit where you hear nothing but empty words has no spiritual

value, and does not minister to the needs of the spirit of man.

It should be prayer, and preaching, and teaching.

But we have changed it.

We have dropped prayer, and teaching of the Word, out of the program.

We have put preaching first, and we have classes in psychology and philosophy instead of teaching men how to pray.

There should be a department of prayer in every church. That should be the heating plant of the spiritual life, the very sinews of the church.