

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 14th

PRAYER AND THE CHURCH

[part 2 of 11]

* Again, EVERY church should have a Prayer Program.

There should be a prayer organization, as well as the young people's or the Sunday School organization.

The prayer life of the church should be so interwoven with every feature of it that God could be seen in every department.

The finances are called the sinews of the church, but this is not true.

Prayer forms the real sinews of the church.

You remember that the prayer life brings those who pray into vital contact with the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, as well as continually in touch with the Word.

It isn't just saying prayers, but meeting Him for a while, getting His mind for the day, His strength, His quietness, and His love.

This vital contact has certain spiritual reactions that are of inestimable value to the life of the church.

We all know what it will mean when a great number of the people in the church enlist in a Prayer Program and come in vital contact with the Lord daily.

Every man and woman in connection with our church who is not spending

time in prayer will be a neutralizing force in the church.

They may be in the choir; they may be in the Sunday School; they may have charge of the finances; they may act as deacons or elders; but whatever their place, they carry a certain coldness, they are an inert body.

They have a tendency to lower the spiritual temperature of everyone in close contact with them.

So it is vitally important that the largest possible number of the membership should be led into the Prayer Program of the church.

This isn't any place for theory.

This is the place for positive facts.

A church can't be built up spiritually without prayer.

Numbers can be drawn through personal work or by eloquence, but to build up a real spiritual body, is only possible through prayer.

This will need much wise teaching on the part of the Pastor, and the teachers of adult classes.

Give prayer a large place in your church program. Don't only teach about prayer, but practice it.

Have prayer services with a real program. Give subjects for definite intercession.

While one intercedes, train the rest to make that prayer theirs; not by shouting loud "amens," but silently making that intercession their very own.

The whole group will be crowding into the Throne Room, making that request as their own.

You can educate the people so that their prayers will prevail.

Make them Prayer Masters, mighty in Intercession.