

Passionate Prayer

I Thessalonians 3:9-13

~ Five indicators that prove we are praying passionately ~

I. PASSIONATE PRAYER IS INTERCESSORY PRAYER. 3:9-13

"Prayer does not just enable us to do a greater work for God. Prayer is a greater work for God." (Thomas Chalmers)

Romans 1:9 - For God is my witness...that without ceasing I make mention of you always in my prayers;

Ephesians 1:16 - Making mention of you in my prayers;

Philippians 1:4 - Always in every prayer of mine for you...

Colossians 1:9 - For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you...

Luke 22:32 - But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not...

John 17:20 - Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word;

Romans 8:34 - It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.

II. PASSIONATE PRAYER IS GRATEFUL PRAYER. 3:9

"For what thanks can we render to God again for you, for all the joy wherewith we joy for your sakes before our God;"

1 Corinthians 1:4 - I thank my God always on your behalf...

Ephesians 1:16 - Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers;

Philippians 1:3 - I thank my God upon every remembrance of you,

Colossians 1:3 - We give thanks to God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you,

1 Thessalonians 1:2 - We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers;

2 Thessalonians 1:3 - We are bound to thank God always for you, brethren,

Philemon 4 - I thank my God, making mention of thee always in my prayers,

III. PASSIONATE PRAYER IS FREQUENT PRAYER. 3:10a

"Night and day praying exceedingly ..."

Acts 18:3-4 - Because he was of the same craft, he abode with them, and wrought: for by their occupation they were tentmakers. And he reasoned in the synagogue every Sabbath, and persuaded the Jews and the Greeks.

IV. PASSIONATE PRAYER IS SPECIFIC PRAYER. 3:10b,12-13

Their Faith in Jesus would Grow.

"Night and day praying exceedingly that we might see your face, and might perfect that which is lacking in your faith?"

"In spite of his great enthusiasm for the spiritual achievement of these converts, Paul recognizes that they come short of what they should be." (Leon Morris)

Their Love for Others would Flow.

"And the Lord make you to increase and abound in love one toward another, and toward all men, even as we do toward you:"

"Operation Agape is launched in this verse. Paul's prayer shows his all-consuming desire for them is that their love may abound. This is getting our hands dirty in the service of Jesus. It is getting our feet wet in ministering to others in his name." (Sam Gordon)

Their Holiness of Life would Show.

"To the end he may stablish your hearts unblameable in holiness before God, even our Father, at coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints"

Ephesians 5:27 - That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

V. PASSIONATE PRAYER IS DEPENDENT PRAYER. 3:11

"Now God himself and our Father, and our Lord Jesus Christ, direct our way unto you."