

Good morning, Church. Daily Reading, Proverbs 27.

1 Thessalonians 5:17 "Pray without ceasing." (NAS)

Oswald Chambers writes this about prayer. "The job of every Christian is to pray. Plain and simple. Yet we want to do more than simply pray. We want to do something important for God; we want to be someone important to Him. We want to build; we want to mobilize; we want to show our strength and exert our influence. Prayer seems like such a small thing to do-next to nothing at all.

But that is not what Jesus said. To Him prayer is everything; it's a duty as well as a privilege, a right as well as a responsibility. We use prayer as a last resort; Jesus wants it to be our first line of defense. We pray when there's nothing else we can do; Jesus wants us to pray before we do anything at all."

He shares that many want to see immediate results. We think we need to help God and not wait for God. By doing something, we think we are helping God out. That we are making God look good, especially to non-believers, and surely that is a good thing. Right? Not necessarily.

Finally, he comments, "God wants us to pray. Always and about everything. During times of joy as well as sorrow. He wants us to talk to Him, and not about Him. Prayer is our business. Prayer is our holy occupation."

I read this years ago, "Pray out of prevention and not out of crisis."

"Pray without ceasing."