

Spiritual Warfare in Prayer

Teach Us To Pray – Part 5 (Daniel 10:1-21)

Life Church St. Louis – September 9, 2012

Lead Pastor – Dr. Dan Walker

Ephesians 6:12 (NIV) For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

1. Have a proper prayer _____

Daniel 10:1-3 (NIV) In the third year of Cyrus king of Persia, a revelation was given to Daniel (who was called Belteshazzar). Its message was true and it concerned a great war. The understanding of the message came to him in a vision. At that time I, Daniel, mourned for three weeks. I ate no choice food; no meat or wine touched my lips; and I used no lotions at all until the three weeks were over.

1A. Ask God for _____

Daniel 10:12a (NIV) Then he continued, "Do not be afraid, Daniel. Since the first day that you set your mind to gain understanding ...

1B. _____ yourself before God

Daniel 10:12 (NIV) ... you set your mind to gain understanding and to humble yourself before your God, ...

2. Believe God _____ to prayer

Daniel 10:5-6 (NIV) I looked up and there before me was a man dressed in linen, with a belt of the finest gold around his waist. His body was like chrysolite, his face like lightning, his eyes like flaming torches, his arms and legs like the gleam of burnished bronze, and his voice like the sound of a multitude.

2A. God sends _____ to answer prayers

Hebrews 1:14 (NIV) Are not all angels ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation?

2B. God _____ your prayers

Daniel 10:11-12 (NIV) He said, "Daniel, you who are highly esteemed, consider carefully the words I am about to speak to you, and stand up, for I have now been sent to you." And when he said this to me, I stood up trembling. ... Since the first day that you set your mind to gain understanding and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard, and I have come in response to them.

3. Understand spiritual _____

3A. _____ resist God's angels

Daniel 10:13a (NIV) But the prince of the Persian kingdom resisted me twenty-one days.

3B. _____ prayer brings victory

Daniel 10:13b (NIV) ... Then Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, because I was detained there with the king of Persia.

Daniel 10:21 (NIV) but first I will tell you what is written in the Book of Truth. No one supports me against them except Michael, your prince.

3C. The battle is _____

Daniel 10:20 (NIV) So he said, "Do you know why I have come to you? Soon I will return to fight against the prince of Persia, and when I go, the prince of Greece will come;

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Intro. What do you think spiritual warfare involves?

Why do you think that Ephesians 6:12 says that our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against evil spiritual forces?

In what ways do you think that prayer is a wrestling or struggle with the evil forces mentioned in Ephesians 6:12?

What do you think is the objective of Satan in this fight?

1. What type of situations should lead to the type of intense prayer season that Daniel engaged in (Daniel 10:1-3)?

Why do we need to have an mind set to gain understanding from God (Daniel 10:12a)?

In what ways does fasting enhance prayer (Daniel 10:12b)? How would corporate fasting give an even greater effect?

2. According to the Bible, what are some of the characteristics and functions of angels (Daniel 10:5-6, Hebrews 1:14)?

How immediate was God's response to Daniel's prayer (Daniel 10:11-12)?

What confidence does the way God responded to Daniel's prayer give you for your prayer life?

3. Why do you think that many people no longer believe in the existence of demons and fallen angels?

How does Daniel 10:13a explain the 21 day delay in Daniel receiving the answer to his prayer?

What insight does Daniel 10:13b and 10:20-21 give you into the nature of spiritual warfare?

How can this understanding of spiritual warfare help you in your prayer life?

How can you personally and as a group pray for the future growth and expansion of Life Church and StarBridge?