



Reschedule your life

Matthew 6:6 "But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly."

Words of Ministry

There is a "secret life" with every Christian who is faithful to the Lord. This "secret life" is the source of our power, our faith and our walking in the manifest will of God. This "secret life" is simply fidelity to a life of prayer and fellowship with God regarding our daily life and activity. The Lord instructs us to go into our "room", shut out all other distractions and pray to the Father, "who is in the secret place". The promised reward from God is sure: "and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly."

Many people are feverishly seeking outward success in business, relationships, vocation, etc. – and yet God's method for outward success is to first have a secret and inward success in prayer. When we take care of being faithful in prayer, God then promises to "reward you openly". Verse 33 puts it in this way: "seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you." The word "added to" in the Greek means, "place additionally, that is, lay beside, annex, repeat:—add, again, give more, increase, lay unto, proceed further". Hallelujah! God promises that if we will center our days around Him in prayer, He will "add, give more and increase" us in outward things as well! We will even get ahead in our business as He will see to it that we "proceed further"! How awesome are the benefits of time spent in the secret place of prayer with God!

So if such benefits are promised us, why is it that so few Christians spend time in prayer? Perhaps your answer would be about time: too busy, not enough time in the day, overtime hours at work, the demands of home responsibilities, etc. The truth is, time is not the real problem. It is always an issue of faith, not time. Do we believe God or not? Do we believe His word about prayer – its importance, priority and rewards? In the end a lack of

prayer is just a lack of faith and nothing more. We simply do not believe what God says. If we cure the unbelief, we will cure the time spent in prayer. How do we get faith? "faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God" (Rom. 10:17). If we spend time in the Word, our faith will grow.

Prayer is the exercise of our unseen heart and spirit in communion with the unseen God. This takes faith. With the eyes of our spirit, we can learn to behold the Lord and discern from Him what He wants us to do in regard to all the situations in our life. We need to nurture this kind of spiritual exercise in all the occasions of our life – when we are busy, when we are bored, when we are content, when we are tired, etc. Every "state" is a good time for prayer! Jesus taught us "that men always ought to pray and not lose heart" (Luke 18:1).

Keeping prayer central to your life is vital for having a strong spirit. If we do not make prayer happen, it probably won't. We have our home life, our family life, our school life, our work life and our social life. We meet people, we talk to people, take care of errands and we are occupied daily with many things. Although we all share this kind of life outwardly, you and I also need to preserve a secret life in a private room with the door shut, spending time with the Lord. Here there is no one else: just ourselves and the Lord. This is where faith alone guides us. And it is in this private encounter of our spirit with His that we gain the knowledge that, "our life is now hidden with Christ in God" and that "when Christ, who is our life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory" (Col. 3:3-4).

One thing God promises: spending time with the Him WILL be revolutionary. Take the initiative and reschedule your life to go along with that still small voice within you that you've cultivated in prayer. Begin to reschedule your life around the things He is revealing to you in prayer. Begin to let Him take the leading role in your daily life. Allow Him to show you how to live with your spouse, how to address the problems at work, how to relate to your kids, etc. Proverbs 3;5-6 says, "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths."

Learn to reschedule your life with the Lord in the secret place of prayer. The "open rewards" of God are waiting for you to do so.