

A STUDY ON PRAYER

COMMUNICATING PETITIONS & GRATITUDE

To Him whose truth and faithfulness engage the waiting soul to bless, And since he bids me seek his face, Believe his word and trust his grace, I'll cast on him my every care, And wait for Thee, sweet hour of prayer!

—William Walford

I. Review of where we are

- A. We can adore God through our study and praying of the Scriptures.
- B. We need to strike a proper balance between Form and Freedom.

II. Communicating Petitions

- A. Entertainment vs. Effectiveness
- B. Persuasive Urgency
 - 1. Luke 11:5-10, Matthew 6:25-33, et al
 - 2. Intense and Persuasive Urgency from the Heart.
- C. Building a Case
 - 1. Persuasive Rationale
 - a. More Expressive Content in Prayer
 - b. More Time in Meaningful Prayer
 - 2. Countless Benefits
- D. Kinds of Support
 - 1. Focus on God and His Word
 - 2. Focus on the People of God
 - 3. Focus on the World around Us

III. Communicating Gratitude

- A. The Cause and Purpose of Gratitude
 - 1. Words of Gratitude offered to Extol
 - 2. Our Stories Retold in Prayer
- B. The Results of Gratitude is Inward Strength and Joy

IV. Looking Forward

- A. How can we apply this?
 - 1. Establishing the Proper Relationship between Form and Freedom
 - 2. Make our Communications more scripturally related
- B. Realize that our Communications are more than Words