

PRAYER

One of the greatest blessings to be enjoyed by the child of God is the sweet avenue of prayer. Prayer helps provides us with strength to live as God instructs us to. Prayer provides us with tremendous comfort in times of grief and sorrow by enabling us to come before God's throne and casting all of our cares upon God. Listen to Peter's admonition in II Peter 5:7, "Casting all your care upon Him for He careth for you." Also, consider the words of the Hebrew writer: "Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need." (Hebrews 4:16). What a tremendous source of comfort to know that the Great God of the universe cares personally for each and everyone of us, and even invites us to cast all of our cares (concerns, troubles, problems, etc) upon Him. Why such an invitation? Because He cares for us.

Prayer strengthens us spiritually; lifts us up when we are down; helps bring us closer to God; empowers us to live the Christian life; strengthens family ties (It has been said that families which pray together stay together), etc. For the child of God to neglect the blessed avenue of prayer is to neglect one of the greatest sources of strength at the Christian's disposal. In view of such, how very important it is that everyone of us heed the inspires admonition of the apostle Paul: "Pray without ceasing" (I Thess. 5:17).

- Tim