

# Too Busy To Pray



Pastor Pereira and I are starting a six week series on prayer and its importance in our lives. Prayer is our window into the supernatural. We begin our series in Acts 12:1-18, where James, the first apostolic martyr is beheaded by King Herod and Peter is put in jail under heavy guard. The title of my first message is "But Prayer".

1. If you could give only one purpose for your praying to God, what would it be?

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2. Do you ever struggle with having enough things to pray about or do you ever run out of things to say?

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3. In Acts 12:13-16 does it seem that Rhoda believed it was really Peter outside the door? If the Believers really believed in the power of prayer then why did they not believe it was possible for Peter to be free? Might they have been praying for something other than Peter's freedom?

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4. Matthew 18:20 tells us that Christ is in the midst when two or three are gathered together in His name. In Acts 12:5 prayer was made by "the church". Do we need to pray as a group in order for the Lord to hear? (Psm 3:4; 22:24; 34:4) How important is prayer when spoken in private?



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5. In reflecting on Romans 8:26, why do we need the Spirit's intercession when we pray?

**Romans 8:26** Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. <sup>27</sup> Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to *the will of God*.

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6. Can you remember going to prayer just to talk to God for no other reason than to commune--you had no specific prayer request? Be honest! You can say that your whole reason for going to prayer was just to talk to God to enjoy him. If you haven't, then what do you think God thinks about your prayer life?

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