

Study Questions: Unceasing prayer (1 Thessalonians Ch5 17)

To believe in the transformational power of unceasing prayer

1. How good are you at multi-tasking? Are there some things you can do simultaneously, and are there others you can't? Can you think of an example of when multi-tasking has gone wrong?
2. Read I Thessalonians Ch1 1-3, Ch2 13, Ch3 9-10, Ch5 16-18 and Ephesians Ch6 18. From these verses what is Paul expecting Christians to do? How does knowing that "unceasing" in I Thessalonians Ch1 17 is the Greek word *adialeiptos*, which means constantly reoccurring rather than non stop, help our understanding of unceasing prayer?
3. Why is prayer difficult? Three reasons were given on Sunday, but there are many other reasons too. (Once you have discussed the question, you can then google "Why is prayer so difficult Geoff Thomas" for an article which gives eight reasons.)
4. One encouragement to pray is seeing prayer answered. Briefly tell of a time when your prayer was answered.
5. Prayer is mentioned widely in the bible, share a verse or passage about prayer that means something to you, and explain why? If you can't think of a passage, consider Luke 11 1-10.
6. What practical advice can you give, that has helped you to pray?
7. What was suggested on Sunday as the best advice to help prayer? Do you agree?
8. Why is it important to pray as a church?

Bonus question

9. There is a saying that "We pray to God the Father, through Jesus the Son, with the help of the Holy Spirit." Discuss how understanding the Trinity can help us in our prayer lives.