

## THE 12 PRAYER LESSONS FROM THE LIFE OF JESUS (II)

(Taken from The leader's prayer life by Rick Warren)

Last week we have learned 4 points on The Lord Jesus' prayer life that changed life and condition. We have learned the importance of:

1. **Principle of Illumination**
2. **Principle of Isolation**
3. **Principle of Concentration**
4. **Principle of Insulation**

We know that prayer and how we pray changes things and changes us as well.

Today we will continue deeper on how to have a genuine prayer's life like Jesus. This genuine prayer of Jesus will definitely make us more than average. So let's understand the:

### 5. **The principle of TRANSFORMATION**

***Luke 9:28-29 "He took Peter, John and James with Him and went up on a mountain to prayer. As He was praying the appearance of His face changed and His clothes became as bright as flash of lightning."***

Prayer will change you. Do you think it's possible to spend so much time with God that when you come away your face shows it? Well, that's what happened to Jesus when HE prayed.

In the Old Testament, Moses came down from the mountain top wearing a veil with the glory of God. Yet when Moses lost God's glory, he keeps wearing the veil so that no one will know the glory had gone. It is important for us not to be dry spiritually. When this happened, we surely have to charge ourselves with God through seeking HIM in prayer.

Illus: *If your mobile phone is running out of battery, you have several options: to keep using it until there is no more battery, you turn it off, or you charge your mobile so you can use it longer.* If you are spiritually dry, then you should seek Him, don't lose God's glory

As a believer, we need God's glory in our life that can sanctify us (Ex 29:43) and be blessing to others.

***2 Cor 3:18 "We all with unveiled faces behold the glory of the Lord."***

It says as we look on Him "We are transformed from one degree to another." The word in that passage is the word *katoptrizo*, which means, "to seriously look at, to contemplate, to meditate, to gaze on like somebody gazing in a mirror."

It says as we gaze on the word, as we reflect the word, like a mirror reflects, we become more and more like Christ. And we're transformed.

One day we shall see Christ as He is and we'll be completely transformed to be just like Him. Now we see a reflection on Him through His word. Notice, as we spend time with God's word we become more and more like Him through His word. Remember Peter and John (Acts 4:13) where people can see that they had been with Jesus.

Illus: *You just buy a new bottle of perfume. You will not be able to smell the nice perfume until you open the lid or spray the content.* Unless you spend time with God, no one can see God's glory in you.

The question: *Do people notice that about you? Have people noticed that you've been with Jesus? The bible says that when we spend time with God, it changes us into His likeness.*

## 6. The principle of EXEMPLIFICATION

**Luke 11:1** *“One day Jesus was praying in a certain place and when He finished one of His disciples said to Him, “Lord, teach us to pray just as John taught his disciples.”*

Notice it does not say, “Teach us how to pray,” which is often misquoted. It says “Teach us to pray.” There is a difference here and this is a dangerous prayer to pray. We should not pray this request unless we really mean it, because God will often use trials and hardships and difficulties to teach us to pray.

We all know that when we get in tough times we’re much more open to praying than we’re not. So the two most dangerous prayers a person can pray is *“Thy will be done”* and *“Teach us to pray.”* Because the way you learn to pray is by being put into situations to force you to pray.

That’s the principle of Jesus teaching by example.

*(Discuss with your members an experience of praying and asking God with this prayer?)*

## 7. The principle of PRESERVATION

**Luke 22:31-32** *“Simon, Simon. Satan has asked to sift you as wheat but I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. When you have turned back, strengthen your brothers.”*

This is a prayer of protection. Jesus is saying, I’m praying for your protection. It’s a life preserver. We don’t just believe in prayer, we believe in God. Jesus not only save you, but He prays for you. Just as He prays for Peter, we know in Hebrews 7:25-27 He prays for us.

Understanding that Jesus is praying for us, therefore we should not fear.

Robert Murray McShane (a famous Scottish pastor)once said: *“If I could hear Christ praying for me in the next room, I would not fear a million enemies.”* Well, God is praying for you and me now. Jesus, He is seated at the right hand of Father making intercession for us.

*(Share with your group: What is your fear now? Understand that God is praying for you, for your protection)*

## 8. The principle of PREPARATION

**Luke 22:42** *Jesus prays “Father, if you are willing, take this cup from Me. Yet not My will but Yours be done.”*

Did you see the change in this prayer? First, He said, *“Take it away from Me.”* Then He said, *“Lord, leave it.”* He prayed earnestly. Why?

Because He knew He would be facing in the next few hours the greatest trial of His life and He didn’t want to approach it prayerlessly. So in preparing of the crisis they knew Jesus prayed.

*Do you make prayer preparations before your daily activities?*

Do you say, “God, prepare me for the unknown crises that I’m going to face in my life today.” Jesus said, “Lord, I don’t know what’s going to come but I want Your will more than anything else.” This is the principle of preparation.

*Now, from today lessons, which of these principles are you lacking? Let’s pray together that we all can impart these prayer principles in our lives.*

God bless you.