

## Prayer's Top 4 Priorities

February 23, 2017

### Wrong Motives for Prayer:

- religious duty or obligation
- guilt and fear
- using God as a genie
- gimmickry to activate God's power

### Philippians 3:10-11 NASB

10 that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death;

11 in order that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.

### Prayer's Top 4 Priorities:

- **To know God** ("*...that I may know Him...*")

**know** (*ginosko - to learn to know, to come to know, to perceive, to understand, Jewish idiom for marital relations*)

### John 15:15 NASB

15 "No longer do I call you slaves, for the slave does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I have heard from My Father I have made known to you."

- **To receive His life and power** ("*...the power of His resurrection...*")

### John 17:3 NASB

3 "This is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent."

### Romans 8:11 NASB

11 But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

- **To die to ourselves in absolute surrender** (“...conformed to His death...”)

**Luke 22:41-44** NASB

41 And He withdrew from them about a stone's throw, and He knelt down and began to pray,  
42 saying, "**Father, if You are willing, remove this cup from Me; yet not My will, but Yours be done.**"

43 **Now an angel from heaven appeared to Him, strengthening Him.**

44 And being in agony He was praying very fervently; and His sweat became like drops of blood, falling down upon the ground.

- **To be ready for the Resurrection** (“...attain to the resurrection from the dead...”)

**Colossians 3:1-4** NASB

1 Therefore if you have been raised up with Christ, **keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.**

2 **Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth.**

3 For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

4 **When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory.**