

Sermon Title: The Characteristics of War Room Prayer

Sermon Text: Ephesians 6:18

Sermon Purpose: To call the hearer to intensify their level of warfare prayer.

Sermon Proposition: There are 6 characteristics of war room praying.

I. The prayer life of Jesus

Jesus Christ models what continual prayer looks like

Matthew 14:23 And when He had sent the multitudes away, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray. Now when evening came, He was alone there.

Matthew 26:36 Then Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemane, and said to the disciples, "Sit here while I go and pray over there."

Matthew 26:39 He went a little farther and fell on His face, and prayed, saying, "O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You *will*."

Mark 1:35 Now in the morning, having risen a long while before daylight, He went out and departed to a solitary place; and there He prayed.

Luke 9:18 And it happened, as He was alone praying, *that* His disciples joined Him, and He asked them, saying, "Who do the crowds say that I am?"

Luke 9:29 As He prayed, the appearance of His face was altered, and His robe *became* white and glistening.

Psalms 55:17 Evening and morning and at noon I will pray, and cry aloud, And He shall hear my voice.

Psalms 88:1 <A Song. A Psalm of the sons of Korah. To the Chief Musician. Set to "Mahalath Leannoth." A Contemplation of Heman the Ezrahite.> O LORD, God of my salvation, I have cried out day and night before You.

Daniel 6:10 Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went home. And in his upper room, with his windows open toward Jerusalem, he knelt down on his knees three times that day, and prayed and gave thanks before his God, as was his custom since early days.

II. The prayer life of Paul

Ephesian prayer request, supplication

1. **Ephesians 1:15-23** - The prayer for revelation of knowledge of Jesus Christ

2. **Ephesians 3:14-21** – The prayer for realization of provision

3. **Ephesians 6:18-20** – The prayer for boldness in spiritual warfare

III. The prayer life of the Church

I. The 1st characteristic of war room prayer is the frequency of prayer. V.18a

Philippians 4:6; 1 Thessalonians 5:17; Matthew 6:5-15

The adverb continually in 1 Thessalonians 5:17 was used in the Greek of a hacking cough. It is the idea of maintaining continuous fellowship with God as much as possible in the midst of daily life activities in which concentration may be broken.

II. The 2nd characteristic of war room prayer is the sphere of prayer. V.18b

Romans 8:26-27

Matthew 4:1 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.

2 Chronicles 32:20 Now because of this King Hezekiah and the prophet Isaiah, the son of Amoz, prayed and cried out to heaven.

Exodus 32:11 Then Moses pleaded with the LORD his God, and said: "LORD, why does Your wrath burn hot against Your people whom You have brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand?"

Romans 8:15 For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father."

Jude 1:20 But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit,

1 Corinthians 14:15 What is *the conclusion* then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will also pray with the understanding. I will sing with the spirit, and I will also sing with the understanding.

III. The 3rd characteristic of war room prayer is the variation of prayer. V.18c

1. In a forgiving spirit
Matthew 6:12 And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors.
2. With a whole heart
Psalm 119:58 I entreated Your favor with *my* whole heart; Be merciful to me according to Your word.
Psalm 119:145 QOPH. I cry out with *my* whole heart; Hear me, O LORD! I will keep Your statutes.
3. With the soul
Psalm 42:4 When I remember these *things*, I pour out my soul within me. For I used to go with the multitude; I went with them to the house of God, With the voice of joy and praise, With a multitude that kept a pilgrim feast.
4. With confidence
1 John 5:14 Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.
5. With submission to God's will
Luke 22:42 saying, "Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done."
6. With clarity of sincerity
Ecclesiastes 5:2 Do not be rash with your mouth, And let not your heart utter anything hastily before God. For God *is* in heaven, and you on earth; Therefore let your words be few.
7. With desire to be heard
Nehemiah 1:6 "please let Your ear be attentive and Your eyes open, that You may hear the prayer of Your servant which I pray before You now, day and night, for the children of Israel Your servants, and confess the sins of the children of Israel which we have sinned against You. Both my father's house and I have sinned.

IV. The 4th characteristic of war room prayer is the manner of prayer. V.18d

Philippians 4:6-7; Mark 13:33; Matthew 26:36-41

1. Prayer – describes a believer's approach to God
2. Petition – emphasizes requesting an answer to a specific need
3. Thanksgiving – is an attitude that should always accompany prayer
4. Request – these are definite and specific things asked for

V. The 5th characteristic of war room prayer is the persistence of prayer. V.18e

Luke 11:8-10; 18:7-8; Matthew 7:7-11

Romans 12:12 rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer;

VI. The 6th characteristic of war room prayer is the church community of prayer. V.18f

John 17:20-26; Acts 4:23-31; 1 Timothy 2:1-8

1 Samuel 12:23 "Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you; but I will teach you the good and the right way.

James 5:16 Confess *your* trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.

1 Timothy 5:5 Now she who is really a widow, and left alone, trusts in God and continues in supplications and prayers night and day.