**Pastor Demetric Felton Sr May 28, 2023**

**The Goal Of Prayer And The Golden Rule**

Matthew 7:7-12

**Key Truth**: Disciples of Jesus are to be known as people of prayer and people who treat others with love, respect, and dignity.

**The Progressive Posture Of Prayer:**

1. Keep on **Asking** – petitioning God in prayer (with humility).

2. Keep on **Seeking** – pursuing God in prayer (with responsible

 activity).

3. Keep on **Knocking** – persevering in prayer (through living

 and speaking by faith).

**The Proper Understanding Of Prayer:**

1. Jesus’s disciples are to pray to the Father continually as a

 manner of life.

2. Jesus is giving His disciples the certainty of answered prayer.

3. Jesus clarifies our understanding of prayer.

 A. Wrong view of prayer: God will give me whatever I ask in

 Jesus Name. John 16:24

 B. Biblical view of prayer: God will give me whatever I ask in

 Jesus Name that is according to His will and purpose for my

 life. 1 John 5:13-15

**The Outworking Of Discipleship:**

1. Doing good to others equates to putting love in action as an

 expression of our discipleship to Jesus.

 A. In other words, we are proactive in our love toward others

 because, we are motivated by God’s love for us.

**Taking It Beyond The Walls:** Live your life with total dependance upon Jesus Christ. Pray without ceasing. Look for ways to show love and kindness to others. Share Jesus Christ with someone this week.

**Connection Group Homework:**

Looking back at your notes, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

Do you ever feel like you are bothering God with your many requests? How do Jesus’ words in these verses change your perception?

Read Ephesians 6:18-19: What does verse 18 encourage each of us to do for one another?

What types of prayers did Paul mention in these two verses?

Jesus taught us to be persistent in prayer and to trust our Father’s goodness. What complementary principles do these verses teach?

Psalm 55:22

James 5:16-18

1 John 5:14–15

Read Luke 18:1-8: What do you think is the main point of Jesus’ story?

What does Jesus teach us is the result of faithful prayer?

Read 1 John 4:19-21: What reasons do these verses give us for why we should practice godly love?