

This is Our Church: Prayer | Dave Solmes | February 2, 2020

Read: 1 Thessalonians 5:17

Question: What questions come to mind when read this short verse?

Context: Paul wrote this invitation to a very young community of believers who had grown up in a temple -centered religious system. So, by explaining this, Paul was showing them that while God's work includes the temple, but God's work is not temple centred, nor is it a parish priest entered.

Praying without ceasing involves:

#1. Listening Prayer

Read: Isaiah 43:1

Question: Why is it difficult to ignore someone who calls you by name?

Question: What are practical things we can do to get familiar with God calling us by name?

Read: Revelation 3:20

Question: What does this verse also say about God's desire to connect with us?

Question: What are your listening prayer practices?

Question: What are some practical things you could do to increase your listening discipline?

#2. Lifting Prayer

Read: Genesis 26:25

Question: What does calling upon the name of the Lord mean to you?

"Never stop praying" includes:

- Praying and not losing heart
- Praying our way through our day
- Turning everything, anything, everyone into a prayer request
- Turning in God's direction every time

Question: What are you praying about these days? For real?

Simply stated - Praying without ceasing is always turning and facing the God who has turned and always faces us. As we do, we are best positioned to practice listen prayer and to lift our voice in prayer and intercession.