

Church of the Valley
Are you ready for 2020?
Obstacles to God's Purpose and Plan-Part 3
The Obstacles of Lacking Prayer
November 10, 2019

THE IMPORTANCE OF PRAYER

"I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people—for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Savior..." 1 Timothy 2:1-3 (NIV)

SERMON TEXT

"Now Joshua sent men from Jericho to Ai, which is near Beth Aven to the east of Bethel, and told them, 'Go up and spy out the region.' So the men went up and spied out Ai. When they returned to Joshua, they said, 'Not all the army will have to go up against Ai. Send two or three thousand men to take it and do not weary the whole army, for only a few people live there.' So about three thousand went up; but they were routed by the men of Ai, who killed about thirty-six of them. They chased the Israelites from the city gate as far as the stone quarries and struck them down on the slopes. At this the hearts of the people melted in fear and became like water. Then Joshua tore his clothes and fell facedown to the ground before the ark of the Lord, remaining there till evening. The elders of Israel did the same, and sprinkled dust on their heads." Joshua 7:2-6 (NIV)

"The Lord said to Joshua, 'Stand up! What are you doing down on your face? Israel has sinned; they have violated my covenant.'"
Joshua 7:10-11 (NIV)

OUR BATTLE IS SELF-CONFIDENCE ('I CAN DO THIS')

#1. Self-confidence results in _____ decisions.

#2. Prayer is to be our _____ action not our _____ to failure.

THE LIFE QUESTIONS?

#1 How can I pray more effectively?

"The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much."
James 5:16 (NKJV)

Fervent praying acknowledges who God is and our need for Him.

The righteous man is not a perfect person but one trusting in Christ.

#2. What am I willing to give up in order to know Christ?

Time is the commodity that either we own or give to the Lord for His use.

MEMORY VERSE FOR NOVEMBER 2019

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength."

Mark 12:30