## How Jesus Prayed Ray Stedman

I. Introduction.

A. Text: Luke 11:1.

B. The disciples recognized that Jesus knew more about prayer than John did and requested his council on it.

C. We do not know how to pray as evinced by the incredible amount of fainting in our midst.

D. Prayer is often absent because we do not clearly see what prayer is.

II. What is prayer.

A. Prayer was a necessity for Jesus and everything He did was in response to prayer.

1. In trouble, Jesus' immediate response was prayer—there was a continual sense of expectation and Jesus was praying by His attitude all the time.

2. We are never very far away from the thought that God is in us—at work to do what He pleases.

- 3. Continual prayer rose out of a constant sense of need.
- 4. We have an unexplainable sense of self-sufficiency.
- B. Prayer was always a delight and not a duty for Jesus.
  - 1. This does not mean that the Lord did not have to make sacrifices for prayer.
  - 2. Prayer to Jesus was as natural as eating. (Luke 10:21)
- C. Prayer was thanksgiving.
- D. Prayer was seeking council from the Father.
- E. Prayer was intercession for Jesus.
- F. Prayer was supremely communion for Jesus.
- III. Faith rests on the great fact that we are insufficient.

A. Our life is really under control only when our attitude is what Jesus had—that God is our continual need.

B. Faith looks for a continual supply.

C. Prayer is our continual supply.

## **Application questions:**

1. Does your life reflect the idea that prayer is necessary? Why or why not?

2. Which aspect of prayer stands out to you? Explain.

3. How is prayer our continual supply? What will you do this week to practice a more consistent prayer life?

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