The Secret Government of Earth Ray Stedman

I. Introduction.

- A. Text: II Corinthians 10:3-5.
- B. Man is not capable of solving all the problems of the earth.
- C. The gospel of Jesus Christ is the only hope of the world.

II. Faith-prayer is a weapon of the righteous.

A. Faith is a belief that there is around us a kingdom that rules over the affairs of man.

B. Prayer is the means by which God has ordained that supernatural forces come upon the situations of men's lives.

1. The prayer of faith directly attacks spiritual problems.

2. The Christian must have a renewed sense of his power in society through prayer.

- 3. Prayer is powerful.
- 4. One learns what prayer is by praying.
- C. Faith is required for prayer to work.
 - 1. Faith is based upon what God said He would do and counting upon it.

2. The Old and New Testament is full of examples where prayer made an impact on society.

III. Warnings about prayer.

- A. One must obey the laws of prayer.
 - 1. Prayer is not a magic wand—it is a means by which we can participate in God's plan.
 - 2. Prayer is not an opportunity to play God.

3. We must expect variety in the way God answers prayer—we must not dictate the way God must act.

- 4. We can expect results in prayer.
- B. What prayer specifically does.
 - 1. Prayer is intended to open blinded minds and hearts.

2. Prayer imparts courage of faith.

3. Prayer can restrain violent forces and impact government officials.

C. If we really believe that prayer works, our prayer meetings will grow.

D. The church is God's secret government of the earth intended to bring about things that would otherwise not have happened through prayer.

Application questions:

1. Why pray?

2. What are the conditions for effective prayer?

3. What steps can you take to help yourself keep a more consistent and productive prayer schedule?