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Prayer - Your Foundation For Success

3. Prayer Secrets

This opening chapter argues that prayer is the foundation of a fruitful Christian life, and that effective prayer grows out of close, personal fellowship with God. It distinguishes merely being related to God from actually knowing Him, and shows how intimacy produces the faith that makes prayer work.

Key takeaways

- Prayer is the foundation of every successful Christian effort; the great men and women of God all leaned on it.
- Prayer and intercession act like mortar, binding believers together so the strong can cover for the weak.
- Faith is what makes prayer effective and pleases God, but strong faith only comes from deep fellowship with the Father.
- Fellowship is 'the mother of faith' — you can only trust God as much as you actually know Him; lack of fellowship lets Satan lie to you about God's character.
- Revelation knowledge from real fellowship goes beyond 'mental assent' and dispels fear and doubt.

- Set aside daily, uninterrupted time with God; the more time you spend, the more your desires line up with His, so that praying becomes voicing His will.

Passages worth keeping

> *"Fellowship is the mother of faith because you can only put your faith and confidence in God to the extent you know Him."*

States the chapter's core link between knowing God and praying in faith.

> *"Relationship without fellowship, however, is like marriage without love."*

Captures the warning that being God's child isn't enough without time spent with Him.

How it connects

The brick-and-mortar picture ties prayer to the unity of the Body in Ephesians 4, while the vine-and-branches image from John 15 grounds the whole chapter: fruitfulness and answered prayer both flow from staying close to God.

Scripture referenced

- **Hebrews 11:6** -- Faith is what pleases God and makes prayer effective.
- **John 15:4-5, 7-8** -- Abiding in Christ is the condition for bearing fruit and answered prayer.

- **1 Corinthians 1:4-9** -- Believers are called into fellowship with Jesus; God is faithful.
- **James 4:8** -- Draw near to God and He draws near to you.
- **Isaiah 26:3** -- A mind stayed on God is kept in perfect peace through trust.
- **Ephesians 4:14-16** -- The Body knit together, each part building up the whole.