

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

SPIRITUAL SUICIDE – NEGLECTING PRAYER

RLJ-1157

JOHN S. TORELL

OCTOBER 26, 2008

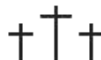
I have learned one thing in my 41 years in the ministry which stands out above everything else: Getting a Christian to pray is like asking him to commit suicide. Whether you realize it or not, not praying is the same as committing spiritual suicide! **James 4:1-3**

Times are getting harder and jobs are not in abundance like they used to be. I spoke with a man some time ago and asked how things are going with his job. He replied that he was not getting the hours he needed. I looked at him and asked him if he had prayed about it? He was silent for a moment, then grinned sheepishly and told me that he had not done so. What did he expect? You will get nothing if you don't take it up with God.

This man represents the modern day Christian; he has time to read the paper, watch television and call his friends but he can't find the time to talk to God. This man has been blinded by Satan; as a result, he is spiritually dull and dried up! **Matthew 13:11-15; Hebrews 5:11-13**

HOW DO YOU BREAK LOOSE?

1. Make a decision to change. Start reading the Bible on a regular basis to build up your faith. **Romans 10:17**
2. If you have not yet been baptized in the Holy Spirit, this is something that you should pursue with all your heart. **Acts 19:1-7**
3. Define yourself by determining
 - ❖ Who are you?
 - ❖ Why you are living on the earth?
 - ❖ What is going to happen to you after death?
4. Here is how God defines every human being:
 - ❖ You were known and designed before birth. **Isaiah 49:1; Jeremiah 1:4-5; Galatians 1:15**
 - ❖ Whatever God wants He will get. **Romans 8:28-31**
5. There are four classes of people in God's kingdom: **Matthew 13:22-23**
 - A. The unfruitful
 - B. 30% fruitful
 - C. 60% fruitful
 - D. 100% fruitful
6. Which group do you fall under? Do you want to change your classification?



THE ROAD TO SUCCESSFUL PRAYER

1. Start your growth in prayer by going through the prayer Jesus taught His apostles. **Luke 11:1-4**
2. Change your mindset and get the right attitude in prayer. **verses 5-8**
3. Cry out for God to stir up your faith and believe that your speaking with Him will make a difference in your life and for other people in the world. **verses 9-13**
4. It is important to pray in tongues in order to press into the supernatural and allow the Holy Spirit to pray through us since we don't always know what to pray for. **Romans 8:26-27; 1 Corinthians 14:14-15**

Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!

DO YOU HAVE AN EAR TO HEAR WITH?