

There is Hope Radio
1-19-25-Transcript
Praying the Word
PreacherRichD

The following broadcast is sponsored by Standing in the Gap. Our focus is intercessory prayer for individuals, the community of Fairfield Bay, Arkansas, and America. Check us out on the web at standinginthegap.creatingfutures.org. That's standinginthegap.creatingfutures.org. Welcome to There is Hope. Any advice or counsel given is provided for informational purposes only. Your host for There is Hope, Richard Dover.

Today we're going to show you how you can pray through Scripture. You know, there's individuals that say they don't know what all to pray, and of course you certainly can pray for yourself, you can pray for family members, you can pray for our nation, you can pray for your community. There's all kinds of things we can pray about, but sometimes we may just get stuck in seeming like we prayed everything we can pray.

Well, there's one thing you can do, and that's you can pray through scripture. And so what we're going to do is we're going to show you how you can pray through scripture. So we're going to take the book of Philippians, Philippians chapter 1, and we're just going to pray through the passages.

And I'll kind of show you how I do it, and you can do it your own way. This is going to be a little bit harder to follow as you're listening on the radio, because you can't follow the scriptures with us, and it might be better to listen to the podcast at a later time to be able to follow through. But just here's an example of how you can pray through scripture.

So we're just going to start at Philippians 1, and we're going to go verse by verse. I'm going to give you different ideas. There's no formula, there's no specific way, but this is just so you can take scripture and apply it in your own personal life in a greater way than just reading through it, but actually praying through it.

And so we're going to start out again, Philippians 1:1-2 it says, *Paul and Timothy, bondservants of Christ Jesus, to all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, including the overseers and the deacons, grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.* That was verses 1 and 2. So the first thing it says, to all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi. So I would apply that and say to all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Fairfield Bay, who are in Greer's Ferry, who are in Anchorage, Alaska, wherever you may be, that it can apply to you also, that the word of God applies to all of us.

And so verse 2, it says, *grace to you and peace from God our Father and Lord Jesus Christ.* So this is what I would do, is I would take it and say, Lord God, I thank you for the grace that you're going to give me today. You're going to give me the grace today to be able to live for you, to honor you, to glorify you.

Your grace is the power to overcome sin. Your grace is to walk in victory over sin. Your grace is to walk in holiness and purity.

So Lord God, I would pray that today I would walk in your grace. I thank you for your grace. And Lord God, I pray for your peace to come upon me, Lord God. Help me to be a man of peace. Help me, Lord God, to find ways to bring peace in the midst of my community, in the midst of my interaction with others. So Lord God, I thank you for your grace and I thank you for your peace.

So we just prayed through verses 1 and 2. I think you're getting the idea already. And we're just going to continue. Verse 3, *I thank my God and all my remembrance of you.*

Verse 4, *always offering prayer with joy in my every prayer for all of you.* Number 5, *in view of your participation in the gospel from the first day until now.* So I'm going to read that through again. *I thank my God and all my remembrance of you. Always offering prayer with joy in my every prayer for you all. In view of your participation in the gospel from the first day until now.*

So there's a lot of different ways that we could turn around and apply this passage. But what if we used to apply it to think about somebody in your life who God has brought into our life, who seems to be one who prays for you, who encourages you, who builds you up. And so as you think about them, would it not bring joy in your heart to think about them and how they've participated with you.

If you're involved in ministry like we are, we think of individuals who have participated in sharing of the gospel with us over the years and different ones may come to your mind and to have joy about what they've done. So I think about for my wife, Carmi and I, and right now, I would just want to pray this. So Lord, I thank you for the different families that we know that stand in the gap for us as we stand in the gap for our community. We thank you for those who pray along with us. And then what I would do is I would mention their names and who they are and start praying for them. And Lord God, I'd also think of a family that lives in another state that have been very supportive for our ministry. You know who they are and I would actually be mentioning those person's names also. And I would just start praying for them and say, Lord, what would you have me to pray for these individuals that have participated with us in the sharing of the gospel, participated with us in ministry, who've been there for our families. And do you see right now that we could be praying for 5, 10, 15 minutes for all these families and we've only looking at verses 3 and 4 and 5. And so there, I think you get the idea of how we can pray through scripture.

Now we're going to go to verse 6, it says, *for I'm confident this very thing that he began a good work in you were perfected into the day of Christ Jesus.* And I want to just stop right there and say, praise God. We can be confident, we can know that God who started a good work in us will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus, the day of Christ Jesus when Jesus comes back. And so if God has started something in you, he began, listen, he began the good work in you. You didn't begin the good work in you. God began the good work in you. And you can be confident this, if God started good work in you, he'll perfect it until the day Jesus comes back. So how can you pray this? Well, let's start with somebody that maybe you've been a person who was involved in addiction and God has set you free from addiction. He began a good work in you of taking you on a path of recovery from addiction.

And so you can be praying something like this, Lord God, I thank you that you have taken me on a path of being addiction free. You started that good work in me. And I Lord God, I can be confident to know that you'll keep me addiction free until the day that Jesus comes back. So, thank you for the power of the Holy Spirit to set me free from addiction. Thank you for the power of the Holy Spirit to keep me free from addiction and I thank you in Jesus name.

Or maybe it could be a different prayer, Lord God, I thank you for the day that you set me free from being suicidal. And that you can keep me free from depression and suicidal thoughts until Jesus comes back. And so Lord God, I just thank you that you set me free from suicidal thoughts and depression.

Or maybe it that God is brought divine healing in your body and, and that you had a miraculous healing from a tumor that just dissolved from your body. So then you could pray and say, Lord God, I thank you that you dissolved that tumor from my body. And I thank you, Lord God, that cancer will not come back to my body, that I will be cancer free until Jesus comes back and I'm giving you the praise and I'm thanking you for it in Jesus name. So you can see there's many ways that you could be praying.

Verse six. Again, I'll read verse six again, because if you don't have the Bible, it's harder to be able to follow along. But it says, *for I'm confident of this very thing, that he began a good work and you perfect into the day of Christ Jesus.* Do you know, if you thought about all the things that God has started in your life, all the things that God has done, not you, listen, any good thing in you is because of Jesus Christ. If you think that anything good in you is because of you, you're deceived, you're misled. There is no good thing in us without Christ Jesus. And so any good thing that's taken place in your life, then you can thank God for it. And man, we could just be praying and praying and praying and praying for all the good things that God has done in our life. So you can see how easy it is to start to pray scripture and how it can get you praying for 5, 10, 15, 20 minutes.

So I'll read one more verse or maybe two more, because we'll be out of time and no time at all. Verse seven. *For it is only right for me to feel this way about you all, because I have you in my heart since both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel, you're partakers of grace with me.* Now, of course, as we read this, maybe we're not, don't know anybody that's in prison that we've supported, but maybe there's somebody in prison you have supported and that you've been an encouragement to them to help them to serve God, even while they're in prison, you can certainly start praying for them. But I like this last part of it, it says you are partakers of grace with me. All of us, all of us that are believers in Jesus Christ are partakers of God's grace. So, Lord God, I thank you for your grace that has come my way. The grace of God that has come into my life thank you, Lord God, because of your grace, I've been able to live in victory over sin. Because of your grace, I've been able to overcome things in my life. Because of your grace and your mercy, my marriage has survived the terrible times that my wife and I have gone through at various times in our marriage where we've been fools and disrespected each other. But because of your grace, you've preserved our marriage and you've given us more love for each other than we've ever had before. And so I just thank you, Lord God, for the grace that you've given to me, that you've given to my wife.

Lord, I thank you for the grace to carry on with the ministry. Your grace is so mighty, so powerful. We thank you so much for it.

Lord God, I pray that you bestow your grace upon those who are listening on this radio show, Lord God, or listening to the podcast, that you would pour out your grace upon them. And you'd pour your mercy upon them. That Father God, they'll walk in victory over anything and everything that they struggle with, that they battle with, Lord God.

By your grace, Lord God, by your mercy, will you bring healing to their bodies? Will you bring healing to their minds? Lord God, will you restore relationships if they're broken? Lord, would you give them victory over those things that so easily entangle them? I just ask that, Lord God, they would be partakers of your grace. In fact, Lord God, I would pray for those who are listening. Maybe they do not know Jesus Christ, their Lord and Savior, that Lord, they'd come into a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ so they could be partakers of your grace. I know that you've poured out your mercy upon them because you've preserved them, you've kept them alive, you've watched over them in spite of them. Maybe they've been in rebellion to you, but you still have watched over them. And so, Lord God, I would ask for more than mercy for them. I pray that they can also become partakers of your grace by coming into a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. Lord God, bring them into salvation. I pray for my brother that he come into a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ and that he can become a partaker of your grace.

We thank you for your grace, Lord. We thank you for your mercy. We thank you for your love. We thank you for who you are, Lord God. We want to focus on who you are today. And we pray this in Jesus' name.

Do you just see what happened? Listen, this was not planned. I just prayed through. As I'm praying through, thoughts came to my mind of what to pray.

That's the power of praying through scripture, is it can get you into praying when you thought you had nothing to pray about for the day, or you've already prayed yourself out, you've already prayed all those things you want to pray. Start reading the Word of God and pray through the Word of God, and you'll find yourself on a focus of prayer. Now, I'm excited because I want to keep on going.

I looked at verse 8, I've got to pray, and it says, *For God is my witness, how I long for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus.* You know what? There are people that have supported us in our ministry that we long to see them again. We want to be able to have fellowship with them. We want to thank them for the support they've been to us. And I start thinking of individuals over the years that have supported our ministry. We've had major donors over the years. When I was a pastor in the past, we had individuals who donated large sums of money to help our church to be able to do missions work, to be able to do the ministry in our community. And so then I think about them, and I want to pray for them. You can see, here's a very good example of how you can pray through Scripture.

How about praying through Scripture today? Just grab your Bible, start reading the verses, and ask the Lord to speak to your heart as you pray through them, as you apply them. You know, we're not only praying through Scripture, we're applying Scripture, and we're applying the principles in Scripture as we read it. I hope this was of help to you today.

I hope this encourages somebody listening to just start praying through the Word of God. Just grab today, grab the book of Philippians, and just do what we did through just the first few verses of Philippians, that we have gone through about 10 minutes here of just going through the Word, praying through the Word, declaring the Word, proclaiming the Word for our lives, proclaiming the Word of God for others' lives. It's amazing what you can do if you just spend some time in the Word and in prayer.

Well God bless you, thank you for listening.

If you have any questions about going to heaven about Christianity about serving God, about anything we've shared you can reach me PreacherRichD or just Rich 1-866-WANTGOD, that is 1-866-WANTGOD. Happy New Year's!

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