

# “Five Things: Prayer”

## Communing With Christ: Our Duty, Privilege, Influence

James 5:13-18; I Samuel 1:8-18; Phil. 4:6-7

Like Olympic athletes, we are called to run Swifter. Higher. Stronger. The five interlocking Olympic rings remind us of the *Five Things Every Christian Needs To Grow*. If bible study could be compared to fencing (Heb. 4:12; Eph. 6:17) then perhaps prayer could be compared to pole vaulting, for we are to “draw near with confidence to the throne of grace” in prayer (Heb. 4:16). Learn the story of Peter Beskindorf (aka “Master Peter”) and his famous customer. Learn to employ three “springboards” for prayer.

I. The \_\_\_\_\_ of prayer.

- 1) James the Elder teaches us the importance of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ prayer.
- 2) Notice the importance of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ in the prayer of \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_ prayers have \_\_\_\_\_? Duty, \_\_\_\_\_, means.
- 4) Like \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ your soul before the Lord. Get \_\_\_\_\_.

II. The \_\_\_\_\_ of prayer.

- 1) The \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2) The \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3) The \_\_\_\_\_.

III. The \_\_\_\_\_ of prayer. (Phil. 4:6-7)

- 1) Prayer overcomes \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2) Prayer brings a \_\_\_\_\_ to the Lord. “\_\_\_\_\_.”
- 3) Prayer is the discipline that \_\_\_\_\_ a \_\_\_\_\_ heart.
- 4) Prayer directs our hearts to the \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) Prayer leads us to a \_\_\_\_\_ place encircled by the Divine \_\_\_\_\_.

**Application:** “When I feel that I have become cool and joyless in prayer, I take my little Psalter, hurry to my room or to the church and as time permits I say quietly to myself and word-for-word the Ten Commandments, the Creed, some words of Christ or of Paul, or some psalms just as a child might do ... when your heart has been warmed by such recitation, and is intent upon the matter kneel or stand with your hands folded and your eyes toward heaven and speak or think as briefly as you can.”

-- Martin Luther, *A Simple Way To Pray*