

LENT IS A TIME FOR PRAYER

A “RECIPE” FOR A SUCCESSFUL PRAYER LIFE

While Great Lent is often looked upon as being a time of increase prayer, it must be pointed out that prayer is ALWAYS an essential element in our spiritual lives. What is prayer? By definition, it is “communion with God.” Prayer can take several forms. There are prayers of thanksgiving, prayers of worship & prayers of petition.

The power of prayer cannot be matched by any other force. When the Apostles questioned Christ concerning why they could not cast out a demon that was possessing a young boy, the Lord responded that such things could only be accomplished through PRAYER & FASTING. On another occasion Jesus had this to say about prayer: “Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask for when you pray, believe that you will receive them, & you will have them.”

There are several key ingredients to a successful prayer life. First, we must pray with FAITH. We must certainly believe that GOD CAN help us & answer our prayers.

Next, we must pray PERSISTENTLY. How impatient we are with our prayers! We must learn not to give up if our prayers are not answered immediately. Remember the Canaanite woman, who relentlessly pursued the Lord until He granted her request? She would not take “no” for an answer!

Finally, we must pray with HUMILITY. We must never forget that God is our FATHER & we are His CHILDREN. He is the MASTER & we are the SERVANT. Surely, Christ’s own example while praying in the Garden of Gethsemane should indelibly mark this in our mind. What were His words? NOT MY WILL, BUT THINE BE DONE! Rest assured that the Lord hears all of our prayers. May this intimate conversation with God be an important part of every day for us.