Title:Growing up ISpeaker:Alistair KingwillDate:19 April 2015Time:18:00



# Spiritual maturity

#### ephesians 1:15-19

<sup>15</sup> Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, <sup>16</sup> do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers: <sup>17</sup> that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, <sup>18</sup> the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, <u>what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints</u>, <sup>19</sup> and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe according to the working of His mighty power.

### Called to pray

### 1 thessalonians 5:16-18 (esv)

<sup>16</sup> Rejoice always, <sup>17</sup> <u>pray without ceasing</u>, <sup>18</sup> give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the <u>will of</u> <u>God</u> in Christ Jesus for you.

### 1 timothy 2:1-2 (esv)

<sup>1</sup> <u>First of all</u>, then, I <u>urge</u> that <u>supplications</u>, <u>prayers</u>, <u>intercessions</u>, and <u>thanksgivings be made</u> for all people,<sup>2</sup> for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way.

### Not even one hour?

### matthew 26:40-41 (nkjv)

<sup>40</sup> Then He came to the disciples and found them sleeping, and said to Peter, "What! Could you not watch with Me one hour? <sup>41</sup> Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."

### What are the results of devoted prayer?

### 1. Unity and revival

### acts 1:14 (esv)

<sup>14</sup> All these with one accord were <u>devoting themselves</u> to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.

### 2. Signs and wonders

### acts 2:42-43 (nlt)

<sup>42</sup> All the believers <u>devoted themselves</u> to the apostles' teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord's Supper), and to prayer.

<sup>43</sup> A deep sense of awe came over them all, and the apostles performed many miraculous signs and wonders

### 3. Boldness to witness

#### acts 4:31 (esv)

<sup>31</sup> And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness.

# 4. God's plan revealed

#### acts 13:2-3 (esv)

<sup>2</sup> While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." <sup>3</sup> Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off.

# 5. Salvation

# acts 16:25-26 (nkjv)

<sup>25</sup> But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. <sup>26</sup> Suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were loosed.

### acts 16:34 (nkjv)

<sup>34</sup> Now when he had brought them into his house, he set food before them; and he rejoiced, having believed in God with all his household.

# The hope of His calling

#### judges 16:28 (nkjv)

<sup>28</sup> Then Samson called to the LORD, saying, "O Lord GOD, remember me, I pray! Strengthen me, I pray, just this once, O God, that I may with one blow take vengeance on the Philistines for my two eyes!"

### 2 chronicles 7:14 (nkjv)

<sup>14</sup> if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.