**Lord Teach us to Pray – Matt. 6:13**

**Focal Truth: Pray – heavenly Father deliver us from evil**

Do you live with an awareness that the world is filled with evil?

How does evil affect your Christian life?

Do you believe that the devil is real and powerful?

Why should we pray for deliverance from evil?

**Observations**

**Pray – deliver us from an evil heart Heb. 3:12**

*Take care, brethren, that there not be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart that falls away from the living God –* ***Evil = wickedness, badness***

1. Believers pray that God will deliver them from an evil unbelieving heart

An evil unbelieving heart rebels against God

An evil unbelieving heart resist God’s truth

1. Believers pray that God will deliver them from practicing evil deeds

Luke 6:45 – *the good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth what is good and the evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth what is evil, for his mouth speaks that which fills the heart*

Rom. 1: 29 -30 - *God gave them over to a depraved mind, being filled with all unrighteousness, wickedness, greed, evil, full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, malice, they are gossips, slanderers, haters of God, insolent, arrogant, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, without understanding, untrustworthy, unloving, unmerciful*

1. Believers pray that God will deliver them from their old sinful self

Augustine – deliver me from myself!

Rom. 7:19 – 21 - the good that I want, I do not do, but I practice the very evil that I do not want. I find then the principle that evil is present in me, the one who wants to do good

**Consider**

* Believers have the capacity to do great evil
* Believers pray for God to deliver them from an evil heart of unbelief

**Pray - deliver us from the evil one Matt. 13:19**

*When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is the one on whom seed was sown beside the road*

John 17:15 – *I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but to keep them from the evil one*

1. Believers pray for God to deliver them from the evil one – the devil

He is the father of lies about God

He is the father of rebellion against God

He is only evil – Eph. 6:12

He only does evil – 1 Pet. 5:8

He has a part in all evil in the world

Satan = Adversary or opponent

1. Believers pray for God to protect them from the assaults of the evil one

He fires his flaming arrows of condemnation & accusation against the believer

2 Thess. 3:3 – *the Lord is faithful, and he will strengthen & protect you from the evil one*

1 John 5:19 – *we know that no one who is born of God sins, but He who was born of God keeps him, and the evil one does not touch him*

1. Believers pray for God to set free sinners from the power of the evil one

He takes and holds sinner’s captive in their sin – 2 Tim. 2:26

He blinds the minds of the unbeliever

1. Believers pray for God to keep them from the world system which is in the hands of the evil one

1 John 5:19 – *we know that we are of God, and that the whole world lies in the power of the evil one*

**Consider**

* It is very dangerous to ignore the presence & power of the devil
* Believers know Jesus Christ has triumphed over the devil through the cross & resurrection
* Praying for protection from the evil one is a priority for every believer

**Pray – deliver us from the evil age Gal. 1:4**

*Who gave Himself for our sins so that He might rescue us from this evil age, according to the will of our God and Father*

1. Believers know that the world system is built on lies that focus on self – fulfilment, self – satisfaction, & self – importance

1 John 2:16 – 17 - *for all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world. The world is passing away, and also its lusts, but the one who does the will of God lives forever.*

1. Believers pray to God for **protection** from the world & its ways

The Lord Jesus rescued us from the evil age **when he saved us**

The Lord Jesus saved & called us out of the world **to live in holiness**

The Lord Jesus saved & called us to stay in the world **to share the gospel**

1. Believers pray to God for **direction** in the world as they advance the gospel

Acts 1:8 – *you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come on you, and you shall be my witnesses, in Jerusalem, Judea, and Samaria and the uttermost parts of the world*

Acts 13:4 – *so being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went down to Seleucia*

1. Believers pray to God for **determination** to resist the worlds demand for conformity

Eph. 6: 13 – 18 – *with all prayer and petition, pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints*

**Consider**

* Believers are saved in this world to go to the world with the gospel
* Believers pray & watch themselves to prevent conformity to the world
* Believers put on God’s armor; praying in the Spirit for deliverance from evil; while sharing the gospel in the world

**Things to Remember & Do**

1. Prayer for deliverance from evil is the daily prayer of the believer
2. Resisting the devil is done best in prayer
3. Nothing kills the worlds attraction more than prayer

**Deliver us from evil**

**To the praise of the glory of His grace! The Lord is near to the door! Come Lord Jesus!**