



## CELL GUIDE

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<b>TOPIC</b>	The One Thing that is Needful	<b>SPEAKER</b>	DSP Edric Sng
<b>THEME</b>	40 Days of Prayer	<b>DATE</b>	6 & 7 July 2024

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# MESSAGE SUMMARY

## INTRODUCTION

We lead busy lives - relationships, careers, school, church life and the list just goes on. In this 40 days of prayer, the Church is also busied with many things – Turning Singapore Godward, Winning the Youths & Blessing the Nations. All of these things are good. All of it is needful. Above all, there is one thing that is most needful – Prayer.

Without prayer, we are doing godly things while leaving God out of the process. Prayer is the sign and the source of a healthy Christian/Church. In this sermon, DSP Edric expounds the 7 reasons why Prayer must be our top priority as Christians and the Church.

## 7 REASONS WHY PRAYER MUST BE OUR TOP PRIORITY

**1. The house of God is meant to be a house of prayer – Isa 6:7, Matt 21:13**

In both passages, God was clear of His intentions for His house – *“My house will be called a house of prayer for all nations.”*

**2. Every church was told to pray – Col 4:2, Eph 6:18, Phil 4:6, 1 Thess 5:17, 1 Cor 14:15**

In his letters to the Colossians, Ephesians, Philippians, Thessalonians and Corinthians, Paul instructed them to pray – we are of no exception.

**3. Without prayer, the church is a godless building – 2 Chron 6:40, 7:1-2, 7:12**

The temple Solomon built was for the purpose that prayer might be offered there. It was only after Solomon had prayed that God’s presence and glory filled the temple.

**4. Failing to pray for others is a sin – 1 Sam 12:23, Eph 6:18**

As believers, we should persevere in praying for all of the Lord’s people. Do not sin against the Lord by not keeping prayers for others as one of our priorities.

**5. Our prayers are especially important in the end-times – Rev 5:6, 8:1-6**

Our prayers fill up the bowls of incense that goes up before God.

**6. When Jesus comes again, He wants to find us praying – Luke 18:1-8**

In this parable, Jesus speaks about a pleading widow and an unjust judge who fears neither God nor man. And though the judge had refused the widow's pleas initially, he eventually granted her pleas because of her persistence. Now contrast that to God – will not God being good, grant justice quickly to those who cry out to Him? Will we be found with the faith that cries out to God in prayer when Jesus returns?

**7. God wants everyone – “multitudes” of believers – to gather to pray to Him – 2 Chron 30:1-9, 15, 23, 27**

In this passage, the Passover had to be delayed by a month because there were simply not enough people who had gathered in Jerusalem nor enough priests who consecrated themselves for this feast. Hezekiah called for the people of Israel to return and repent, to which they did. Subsequently, their prayers reached heaven and God heard them. God is pleased when His people unites to pray.

## CONCLUSION

Ps Edric exhorts us to seek the Lord while He may be found (*Ps 32:6, Isa 5:6*). When Jesus returns again to bring us into perfect, permanent communion with God, there will be no need to “find” Him anymore. Till then, we must seek His face through prayer. Prayer is the bridge between us on earth and God in heaven.

We might feel distant because of sin, disappointments and hurts but know that nothing can separate us from God's love. All the more, seek Him in prayer as we repent and rebuild our prayer altars.

Repent of our prayerlessness. Rebuild our prayer altars in every sphere:

- Personal → Family → School → Church → Kingdom → World

We may not be a natural when it comes to praying, but we can be intentional. Return to God. Rely on Him. Release everything to Him.

*“However, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?” - Luke 18:8*

# QUESTIONS

1. What have you been busy with in your current season of life? How has any of these helped to grow or distract you from prayer?

2. If "Prayer is the sign of a healthy Christian/Church", how would you evaluate your spiritual health? Why?

3. What is one thing that you could do this 40 Days of Prayer season to be more intentional in prayer?