**SERMON OUTLINE**

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| **SERMON TITLE:** | The Secret of Effectual Prayer |
| **SERMON REFERENCE:** | Romans 11:36 |
| **LWF SERMON NUMBER:** | #2072 |
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1. INTRODUCTION
   1. Today’s message is about “The Secret of Effectual Prayer.”
      1. But it is no secret because the Word of God tells us how to pray effectually.
   2. There is a Divine Triangle.
      1. The Divine Triangle is not a myth; it is a miracle.
      2. It brings things into being.
      3. Romans 11:36
         1. This verse talks about the sovereignty of Almighty God.
            1. Everything begins with God.

He is the source of all things.

* + - * 1. Everything is accomplished through God.

He is the force of all things.

* + - * 1. Everything returns back to God.

He is the course of all things.

* + - 1. All things are from Him, through Him, and to Him.
      2. Almighty God is sovereign.
         1. This is the theme of the Bible.

How does the Bible start?

Genesis 1:1

All things are from Him or of Him.

How does the Bible end?

Revelation 1:8

* 1. All things come from Him and go back to Him.
     1. It is true in the material world.
        1. Colossians 1:16-17
           1. This is a restatement of Romans 11:36.
        2. Jesus is the power of creation.
           1. Jesus put it all here.
           2. He is the reason for and the producer of creation.
        3. Jesus is the preserver of creation.
           1. “Consist” in Colossians 1:17 means that they adhere together.
           2. He keeps the molecular structure of this universe from flying apart.

Every atom, by nature, would want to fly apart except that God has built into them an attraction that holds them together.

He has built the gravitational force into the universe.

* + - * 1. What some call the law of nature is actually the power of Jesus.

Jesus is the one who keeps it all together.

He is the glue of the galaxies.

There is no natural law; it is the laws of God that nature obeys.

* + - * 1. Isaiah 40:26

God has a name for every star in the universe.

Jesus made all of that for His glory.

* + - 1. Jesus is the purpose of creation.
         1. “For” in Colossians 1:16 has the idea of progress toward an object.

It has an idea of motion toward an object.

* + - * 1. The universe came from Him, is sustained by Him, and everything comes back to Him.

People ask, “What is the world coming to?”

It is coming to Jesus.

* + 1. It is true in the spiritual universe.
       1. How is someone saved?
          1. Romans 11:36
       2. Salvation began in the heart and mind of God.
          1. Ephesians 1:4
          2. Christ died before the foundation of the world in the heart and mind of God.
          3. God knew us before we were born.
          4. Your salvation did not originate with you.
          5. It is of Him.

It originated with God.

1 John 4:19

* + - * 1. It is through Him.

Jesus came to this Earth, suffered, bled, and died on the cross.

With His blood, He paid the price of our salvation.

* + - * 1. It is to Him.

He did all of this so that we could know, love, worship, and honor Him.

* + - 1. It is true in sanctification.
         1. Romans 11:36
         2. It is God who gives us the ability to live the Christian life.
         3. Holiness is not the way to Jesus.; Jesus is the way to holiness.
      2. It is true about stewardship.
         1. We cannot give Him anything.

1 Chronicles 29:14

Anything we give to Him, He gave to us.

Whether it is salvation, sanctification, stewardship, or service.

* 1. In today’s message, we will learn three things about effectual prayer:
     1. The origin of effectual prayer.
        1. It is of Him.
     2. The operation of effectual prayer.
        1. It is through Him.
     3. The objective of spiritual prayer.
        1. It is to Him.
  2. When we learn that prayer is a cycle and that all things are of Him, through Him, and to Him, then it will help us to understand how to pray effectively.

1. the origin of effectual prayer roots in the purpose of god
   1. The prayer that gets to Heaven starts in Heaven.
      1. Romans 11:36
   2. Prayer is God's way of getting Heaven's will done on Earth.
      1. It is not man's way of getting man's will done in Heaven.
      2. We are just closing the circuit.
      3. God is a sovereign God.
   3. Why has God allowed us to pray?
      1. God knows what we need before we ask Him, so why should we ask God for what He already knows we need?
      2. Could God do it without our praying?
         1. He will not do it without our praying; and if we do not pray, we will not have.
            1. James 4:3
   4. There are three reasons for prayer:
      1. God has given us the privilege of working with Him.
         1. God has called us laborers together with Him.
            1. 2 Corinthians 6:1
         2. We work together with God as we work with one another, and we work with God in administrating the universe.
         3. God wants to move through His people.
            1. He can do it without us, but we could not do it without Him.

There is joy in this fellowship and cooperation with Almighty God.

* + 1. Prayer bonds us with God.
       1. If we did not pray, then many of us would never think about God.
          1. We would take blessings for granted.
       2. God wants us to be perpetually dependent upon Him, so He teaches us to pray.
    2. Prayer is the way of disciplining us.
       1. Psalm 66:18
       2. One thing that can keep us closer to God more than anything else is the knowledge that if our hearts are not clean and pure, then our prayers will not get through.
  1. The origin of prayer is the purpose of God.
     1. God has a purpose in His heart.
     2. He wants to work in us through prayer.
     3. Prayer did not begin with us.
        1. We don’t name it and claim it; it has to begin with God.
        2. Luke 5:11
           1. In verse 5, the disciple’s response began with “We” and ended with “nothing.”

Anything that begins with “we” ends with “nothing” spiritually.

* + - * 1. We have to get God’s Word.

In order for us to be fruitful in anything that we do, we have to get it from God.

* 1. The reason why our prayers are not answered is because we are not rooted in the purposes of God.
     1. Prayer does not bend God's will to fit our will.
     2. Prayer finds the will of God and gets in on it.
  2. Romans 11:36

1. the operation of effectual prayer relies on the power of god
   1. Not only is prayer of God, but it is also through Him.
   2. God gives us the desire to pray.
      1. We do not have the natural desire to pray.
         1. We have a natural desire not to pray.
            1. Romans 3:11
            2. Romans 8:5-7

The fleshly mind is at war with God.

* + 1. There is nothing in us by nature that would cause us to seek God.
    2. But when God puts His Spirit in us, He gives us the desire to pray.
       1. Romans 8:15
       2. God puts His Spirit into our hearts and lets us know that we have been adopted into His family.
          1. Then, prayer is as natural as a little child saying, "Daddy Father."
  1. God gives us the direction to pray.
     1. We do not know by our own nature what to ask for.
     2. Philippians 4:19
     3. Sometimes we want things that we do not need.
        1. Sometimes we ask God to give us something that is not best for us.
     4. Sometimes we need things that we do not want.
        1. Only the Holy Spirit of God is going to show us how to pray for things that we may not want but that we really need.
     5. Sometimes we want things that we already have.
        1. Sometimes we are asking God to give us what we already have, and we need to give it back to Him.
           1. 1 Chronicles 29:14
     6. The Holy Spirit gives us the direction to pray so that we can know the will of God.
        1. Matthew 16:19
           1. In this verse, the Lord is speaking to the church corporately and as individuals.
           2. In the Greek, this verse says, “Whatever you bind on Earth has already been bound in Heaven, and whatever you loose on Earth has already been loosed in Heaven.”

It has already begun with God.

Now, we need to ratify on Earth that which is done in Heaven.

* + - 1. We need to look to Heaven and find out what God’s plan is in Heaven, and then transfer it to Earth and loose it on Earth.
         1. Manley Beasley: “The secret of success in the Christian life is to find out what God is up to and join Him.”
         2. So many times, we ask God to rubberstamp our plans and bless this mess.
    1. How did Jesus pray?
       1. John 5:19
          1. He looked into Heaven to see what the Father is doing and what the Father wants; that is what Jesus asked for.
    2. Worship is placing ourselves on the altar until we are consumed.
       1. Romans 12:1
       2. A sacrifice is to be placed on the altar.
          1. In Old Testament times, the sacrifice would be consumed by fire.

If the sacrifice was not a holy sacrifice, then it would not be consumed.

It would be repugnant; God would refuse it.

But if it was a holy sacrifice, without spot or blemish, then it was consumed.

* + - 1. We have not really worshipped until we have placed ourselves on the altar, and God has consumed us with holy fire.
         1. Romans 12:1-2

When we worship with loving, lingering prayer, God consumes and transforms us until we have the mind of Christ.

We look into Heaven and see things that are in Heaven.

We see what is bound in Heaven, and we bind them on Earth.

We see what is loosed in Heaven and loose it on Earth.

* 1. God gives us the dynamic to pray.
     1. We must pray in faith.
        1. That faith comes from Him.
        2. Romans 11:36
     2. Faith cannot be conjured up, and we cannot make ourselves believe.
        1. But when we hear God, spend time alone with Him, and worship Him, then faith wells up in our hearts.
     3. Romans 10:17
        1. The word “hearing” in this passage means not just hearing words but hearing God.
           1. When God speaks to us, we then find faith in our hearts.
           2. Many of us just run into God’s presence and say, “Listen, Lord, Your servant is speaking,” rather than, “Speak, Lord, Your servant is listening.”
     4. We don’t get enough prayers answered because we don’t really worship God.
        1. We don’t really see what God wants to do in Heaven.
  2. Prayer is of Him, through Him, and to Him.

1. the objective of effectual prayer is the praise of god
   1. Romans 11:36
   2. God is in the business of getting glory to Himself.
      1. The reason many times that our prayers are not answered is that we are not interested in the glory of God.
         1. We are interested in our own glorification.
      2. When we get interested in the glory of God, we will see prayers start being answered.
         1. James 4:2-3
            1. We are to ask for the glory of God.
   3. It is prayer and thanksgiving that complete the triangle, “Of Him, through Him, and to Him.”
      1. Prayer asks.
      2. Thanksgiving says, “Thank You.”
         1. Thanksgiving enjoys the gift.
      3. Praise enjoys the Giver when we just simply praise the Lord.
      4. Prayer goes into God’s presence to carry something away.
      5. Thanksgiving and praise go into God’s presence just to stay there forever.
   4. John 14:13
      1. We pray in the name of Jesus so that God will be glorified.
   5. When we pray, do not come with the brass of our emotions, come with both hands filled with the incense of Jesus’ name.
      1. Ask in His name.
      2. It really does not matter how we feel.
   6. It is not what we do, but it is God’s grace that gets our prayers answered.
      1. It is not our sweat; it is His blood.
         1. We are to pray in the name of Jesus.
      2. This does not mean that we ought not to do right, but there comes a time when we don’t offer our emotions and performance; we stand on His promises.
2. CONCLUSION
   1. Prayer is the Holy Spirit finding a desire in the heart of the Father, putting that desire into your heart, and then sending it back to Heaven in the power of the cross and Jesus’ name for the glory of God.
      1. Romans 11:36
      2. When you learn to pray that way, you will pray as Jesus prayed.
         1. And you will see God do wonderful things in prayer.
   2. Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
   3. Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
      1. Romans 3:23
      2. Romans 10:9-10
      3. Romans 10:13
      4. Acts 16:31
      5. John 3:16