Olive Drive Church

Lesson 67: Thursday January 12, 2016

**HANDOUT**

**Q101. In what way has God commanded the saved to communicate to Him?**

In persistent prayer.

***What does scripture say about itself?***

2Tim 3:16-17 All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

***Is the Canon Closed?***

Yes. It is complete.

Scripture alone is sufficient for Christians. We don’t need anything else to find extra information about God.

Baptist confession of 1689:

“The Holy Scriptures are the only sufficient, certain, and infallible standard of all saving knowledge, faith, and obedience. …the Lord was pleased at different times and in various ways to reveal himself and to declare his will to his church. To preserve and propagate the truth better and to establish and comfort the church with greater certainty against the corruption of the flesh and the malice of Satan and the world, the Lord put this revelation completely in writing. Therefore, the Holy Scriptures are absolutely necessary, because God's former ways of revealing his will to his people have now ceased.”

**Apostolic succession:** The false doctrine of the Roman Catholic Church that teaches that the Apostles had the authority to name apostolic successors.

***Who is our Authority?***

Gen 3:1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “**Did God actually say**, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden’?”

Biblical Authority: Man is finite and God is infinite and He has authority over us.

***How has our Authority commanded we communicate to Him?***

In persistent prayer.

* Romans 12:12 “be constant in prayer.”
* 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 “pray without ceasing…for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”
* Colossians 4:2 “Continue steadfastly in prayer”

**Q102. What is prayer?**

Prayer is pouring out our hearts to God in praise, thanksgiving, confession of sin, and expressing our requests to Him while submitting to His sovereign will.

***Introduction:***

What is prayer? Communication from us to God

Types of prayer:

1. God-exalting
2. Man-benefiting

***Pouring out our hearts***

James 4:3 You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions.

***Praise***

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

***Thanksgiving***

Ps 107:1 Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!

***Confession of Sin***

1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

***Expressing our requests to Him***

Matt 7:7-11 “Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. Or which one of you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a serpent? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!”

***Submitting (Yielding) to His sovereign will***

“Your Kingdom come, Your will be done.”

***Application:***

* ***Scripture is Sufficient***
	+ Stop seeking out extra words from God that aren’t in Scripture.
* ***Pray Often***
* ***Pray with Sincerity***
	+ Let our prayers be heartfelt and sincere
* ***Pray with Discipline***
	+ Let us seek daily moments where we can set aside a few minutes here or there to go to God in prayer
* ***Pray with Expectation***
	+ Our interaction with God will yield an abundance of fruit
* ***Pray to the Trinity***
	+ We can grow in richness when we think theologically about prayer.
* ***Pray with Reverence and Respect***
* ***Pray as a beloved Son and Daughter***
	+ Eph 2:4-5 “But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ— by grace you have been saved.”