

Week Two
Sin of Prayerlessness
1 Samuel 12; James 4:17
January 29, 2012

FAITHFUL
IN **PRAYER**



I. INTRODUCTION

- A. Our lack of ability or our unwillingness to pray is a sin against God.
- B. We have a privilege and an obligation to God and His Kingdom to pray. Not to do so is disobedience and sin.
(James 4:17)
- C. Samuel was a man who refused to commit the sin of prayerlessness.
(1 Samuel 12:23)

**PRAYERLESSNESS IS A SIN THAT
ERODES INTIMACY WITH GOD.**

II. HOW DOES PRAYERLESSNESS DO THAT?

- A. Prayerlessness is a sin that erodes intimacy with God by causing us to forget God.
(1 Samuel 12:6-11)
1. Prayerlessness causes us to live like God isn't there.
 - a. "But then they forgot the Lord their God . . ."
(1 Samuel 12:9)
 - b. This forgetting is not a memory lapse, but a willful choice to ignore God and to live as though God isn't there.
 2. The people stopped talking to God and fell into deeper sin and idolatry.
(1 Samuel 12:10)

3. When their sin brought pain and judgment they cried out to God. He saved them and restored them. Then when things were good they went back to forgetting God.

4. Would God describe the pattern of our lives like that?

B. Prayerlessness is a sin that erodes intimacy with God by causing us to reject God's Word.

(1 Samuel 12:12-15; 20-25)

1. Prayerlessness make us less sensitive to God's Word and more prone to sin.
 - a. We can be found violating God's Word without even knowing it.
 - b. Romans 13:1-2
2. Prayer is not an option for Christians, it is an obedient response to God's Word.
(Colossians 4:2-4; Luke 18:1; 1 Timothy 2:1-8; 1 Thessalonians 5:17-18)
3. Samuel saw praying as obedience to God.
(1 Samuel 12:12-15; 23)
4. Obedience is the key that opens the door to intimacy with God.
(Luke 11:27-28; John 14:15-17)

III. CONCLUSION

(James 4:17; Psalm 32; 2 Chronicles 7:11-14)