

ALL I CAN DO IS PRAY?

I Thessalonians 5:17-18

Introduction:

1. Folks in assisted living care facilities will constantly tell you this.
2. While a pastor in Sumter, we did about 300 of these each year.
3. Have you been guilty of saying this? *"All I can do is pray."*
4. I don't know of anything you could do that is more important.
5. Luke 11:1- *"Lord, Teach us to pray."*
6. Luke 19:46- *"My house shall be called a house of prayer."*
7. Prayer moves the hand/heart of God on behalf of needs.
8. I Pt 3:12- *"For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous."*

I. (v. 17) **Pray Constantly.**

1. Don't go around with your eyes shut.
2. This verse is saying that we should be so close to God that we can pray anytime.

II. (v. 18a) **Pray Thankfully.**

1. We don't have a problem thanking God for good things, but what about things that come our way that are not good?
2. Romans 8:28 – *"All things work together for good to. . ."*
3. How do we thank God in the bad times?
4. God alone can bring good out of bad things.

III. (v. 18b) **Pray, Accepting All Things Willfully.**

1. People say that they want to know God's will.
2. There are 5 Steps to knowing God's will: Bible, Prayer, Holy Spirit, Praying Godly Friends, and Circumstances.
3. These 5 things will line up when we find God's will.

Conclusion: What are your advantages that assist your prayer life?

1. You are retired – TIME.
2. You don't have to work long hours to make ends meet.
3. You don't have small children demanding your attention and time.
4. You have wisdom and spiritual experiences of a lifetime as an advantage.