



PAUL NEFF

PaulsLifeLessons.com

**Building A Life On Prayer: Devotion**

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## BUILDING A LIFE ON PRAYER DEVOTION

Welcome to this companion devotion for our blog post on building life on prayer. These Bible passages and thought-provoking questions are designed to help you engage with the Scriptures, as well as observe, understand, and apply God's Word to your life. I pray this devotion will inspire and motivate you to consider the benefits of applying the truth of each passage and growing in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior.

One of the investments we made as a family was acquiring a ranch. We bought it when the children were still very young, and we initially acquired a small piece of land. Over the years our desire for a bigger piece grew as we wanted to raise cattle and farm. One of our neighbors owned about 1300 acres. I had approached him twice about selling us some of his land and both times his answer was no; we were unable to come to any form of agreement. One Thanksgiving we were at the ranch as a family. The day before Thanksgiving I had a meeting with the same neighbor to propose the same idea of buying his property. Before I left for the meeting, we prayed as a family and asked God for wisdom and clarity on whether this was the right direction for us. I left for the meeting and God indeed answered, we made clear progress and struck a win-win deal for both of us.

As I came back to the family, I found Kathy standing at the door, tears in her eyes. I asked why she was crying, and she explained, "Because God said yes and I'm overwhelmed with joy." Curious, I asked how she knew, and she responded, "As you drove away, and we stood at the door watching. God brought a rainbow

that touched down on his property, arced over and touched down on our property; and God showed us that He was connecting both pieces.”

#### LEAN IN

Think of a time you prayed about a situation or issue and God answered the prayer. How did He answer the prayer? What did that do for your faith?

#### LOOK DOWN

Consider the following scriptures below; what do they teach us about prayer and our relationship to God?

#### **Matthew 7:9-11**

“You parents – if your children ask for a loaf of bread, do you give them a stone instead? Or if they ask for a fish, do you give them a snake? Of course not! So, if you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give good gifts to those who ask Him.”

#### **Proverbs 15:29**

“The Lord is far from the wicked, but He hears the prayers of the righteous.”

#### LOOK OUT

Doubt, anxiety and confusion are works of the devil. He uses all he can to clutter our thoughts, cause worry or cloud our judgement. The world today offers self-help solutions in the hundreds of thousands with promises of how to overcome, conquer, free yourself

and end the ongoing spate. How does what the world offer compare with the verses below?

### **Philippians 4:6**

“Don’t worry about anything, instead pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank Him for all He has done.”

### **Romans 12:12**

“Rejoice in our confident hope. Be patient in trouble, and keep on praying.”

### **LOOK IN**

We have the tendency to compartmentalize our lives and only pray about certain things in certain areas of our lives. Perhaps we feel those other areas are not ‘worthy’ or important enough to bring before God. Yet prayer gives us insights and peace when facing tough decisions and challenging issues. When it comes to prayer, what areas in your life do you need to bring before God that you haven’t yet?

### **Matthew 21:22**

“You can pray for anything, and if you have faith, you will receive it.”

### **Jeremiah 33:3**

“Ask me and I will tell you remarkable secrets you do not know about things to come.”

### **LIVE IT OUT**

What one change can you commit to making in your prayer life?

May your relationship with God grow richer and sweeter as you take the time to talk with Him every day.