

Guarding and Invigorating your Prayer Life

'Now while we all face the threat of a basic form of prayerlessness, the reality is that most spiritual leaders can't be absolutely prayerless because of the nature of their jobs. It's almost impossible for pastors to be publicly prayerless because they have to pray publicly at some point. We could try to lead services or prayer meetings without actually praying in front of people, but it would be a bit hard long term! So the danger we're talking about here is probably not an absolute prayerlessness, but rather a secret prayerlessness. By that we mean a situation whereby public prayer has become the only prayer in our lives'.

Andy Mason God's Leader

'this kind can come out only by prayer'

Mark 9:29.

'Who in their right mind would try to cast out a demon without prayer? Yet, there is more of this attitude in us than we would like to think. **Have we not also absorbed the ridiculous idea that we can have deep spiritual impact while remaining prayerless?** We, too, try to be effective leaders without seeking God, and try to plant churches without dependence on the Holy Spirit. We, too, are familiar with the problem of prayerlessness in our ministry and lives'.

God's Leader, p164.

Psalm 127

Unless the LORD builds the house,
the builders labour in vain.
Unless the LORD watches over the city,
the guards stand watch in vain.

The warning of (1) is that we do our gospel work in vain unless the covenant God does his work in and through us.

In vain you rise early
and stay up late,
toiling for food to eat –
for he grants sleep to those he loves.

When we work anxiously, in a way that shows we think it all depends on us, we work in vain. That's a useless, profitless way to work. Instead we should trust the promise making, promise keeping God of the Bible and go to sleep!