



DATE: February 2nd - 3rd, 2025 SERIES: Starting Strong SERMON: The Prayer Closet SPEAKER: Pastor Frank Santora

**Matthew 6:6 KJV** But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.

Jeremiah 18:1-5 NKJV The word which came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying: 2 "Arise and go down to the potter's house, and there I will cause you to hear My words." 3 Then I went down to the potter's house, and there he was, making something at the wheel. 4 And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter; so he made it again into another vessel, as it seemed good to the potter to make. 5 Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying:

## By Products of the Prayer Closet

📝 1. Pı	rayer disarms the enemy's plans.
•	Ephesians 6:18 NKJV praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and
	supplication for all the saints—
	Notes:
📝 2. Pı	rayer Makes Us Look Smarter than We Are.
	Jeremiah 33:3 Msg "Call to me and I will answer you I'll tell you marvelous and wondrous things that you could never figure out on you own.'
	Notes:
📝 3. Pı	rayer Saves Us Time.
•	Joshua 10:12 NKJV Then Joshua spoke to the LORD in the day when the LORD delivered up the Amorites before the children of Israel, and
	he said in the sight of Israel: "Sun, stand still over Gibeon; And Moon, in the Valley of Aijalon." 13 So the sun stood still, And the moon
	stopped, Till the people had revenge Upon their enemies. Is this not written in the Book of Jasher? So the sun stood still in the midst of
	heaven, and did not hasten to go down for about a whole day.
	Notes:
📝 4. Pı	rayer Cleanses Our conscience from sin.
•	Matthew 6:12 NKJV And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors.
•	1 John 1:9 NKJV If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
	Notes:
📝 5. Pı	rayer Fills Us With Joy.
•	John 16:24 NKJV Until now you have asked nothing in My name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.
	Notes:

## What Is a Prayer Closet?

📝 1.	A Treasured Place.
•	Philippians 4:6-7 Msg Don't fret or worry. Instead of worrying, pray. Let petitions and praises shape your worries into prayers, letting God know your concerns. Before you know it, a sense of God's wholeness, everything coming together for good, will come and settle you down. It's wonderful what happens when Christ displaces worry at the center of your life.  Notes:
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<u>/</u> 2.	A Tranquil Place.
•	Matthew 6:6 KJV But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door
•	<b>Luke 22:39</b> Msg Leaving there, he went, as he so often did, to Mount Olives.  Notes:

## 📝 3. A transformative Place.

- A) Because here we receive God's strength
  - Luke 22:40 NKJV When He came to the place, He said to them, "Pray that you may not enter into temptation."
  - Mark 14:37-38 KJV And he cometh, and findeth them sleeping, and saith unto Peter, Simon, sleepest thou? couldest not thou
    watch one hour? 38 Watch ye and pray, lest ye enter into temptation. The spirit truly is ready, but the flesh is weak.
- B) Because it's a place where we surrender to His will
  - Luke 22:41-42 NKJV And He was withdrawn from them about a stone's throw, and He knelt down and prayed, 42 saying, "Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done.
  - Matthew 16:24 KJV 24 Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.
- C) Because it's where we receive supernatural help
  - Luke 22:42 NKJV Then an angel appeared to Him from heaven, strengthening Him.
  - **Exodus 17:9-10** NKJV And Moses said to Joshua, "Choose us some men and go out, fight with Amalek. Tomorrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the rod of God in my hand." 10 So Joshua did as Moses said to him, and fought with Amalek. And Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill.
- D) Because it Changes Us
  - 1. Prayer Takes You From Dirt to Clay
  - 2. Prayer Gets The Potters Hands on You!
    - **Psalm 139:8-10** NKJV If I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there. 9 If I take the wings of the morning, And dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, 10 Even there Your hand shall lead me,
    - **Ephesians 1:20-22** NKJV ...in the heavenly places, 21 far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. 22 And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church
  - 3. Prayer Gets The Potters Feet Go to Work For You
    - **Exodus 13:21-22** NKJV And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so as to go by day and night. 22 He did not take away the pillar of cloud by day or the pillar of fire by night from before the people.
    - **Exodus 14:19-21** NKJV And the Angel of God, who went before the camp of Israel, moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud went from before them and stood behind them. 20 So it came between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel. Thus it was a cloud and darkness to the one, and it gave light by night to the other, so that the one did not come near the other all that night.

$\circ$ 4. Praver Gets The Potters Hands and Feet Work $7$
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<b>Jeremiah 18:4</b> And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter; so he made it again into
another vessel, as it seemed good to the potter to make.

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