

3. A RESOURCE THROUGH WHICH I AM FUNCTIONING:

H. I know I'm O.K. when I can maintain that relationship with God which produces answers to prayer. (Matt. 6: 6-13:7:7). Learn this about prayer:

A. The manner of praying is in private without ostentation. The man who prays that way already has his reward. (Note Dr. Jessop's simple exercise as to how much of our praying is self-directed) 6:5-7

B. The basis of praying. IF GOD ALREADY KNOWS OUR NEED--AND HE DOES-- WHY DO WE PRAY? 6:8

1. To enforce the fact of our dependance upon God
2. To organize our needs and sort out our values
3. To enjoy the experience in an answer to prayer. Joseph Smith said we ought to live daily in that atmosphere. BUT WHAT IS AN ANSWER TO PRAYER?
 - a. The result of divine intervention
 - b. The result of specific petition
 - c. Consistent with the nature of God

C The method of prayer (6:9-13)

1. The proper address is that of worship, respect and praise
2. The proper attitude is that of submission
3. The proper approach is that of specificity
 - a. Provide for us
 - b. Forgive us
 - c. Deliver us
4. The proper affirmation is one of grandness

DR. SHEETS SAYS:
This prayer is the cancellation of self
1)Self-will; thy will
2)Self-sufficiency; thine sufficiency
3)Self-praise; thine the glory.

D. The power of prayer (Matt. 7:7) !!

1. The assurances: Ask, seek, knock. No GOOD THING WILL HE WITHHOLD. But LET GOD DECIDE WHAT IS GOOD FOR YOU!
2. The involvment of fasting. I have no real rationale for this but to state that the Word says some things happen only in response to fasting and I KNOW IT TO BE TRUE!

1. The materialist has his commitment; Mrs. Beehler evidenced that believe that THINGS ARE THE MEASURE OF ONE'S LIFE
2. The sanctified child of God has his commitment:
 - a. A CONFIDENCE: God will take care(Pearl story) 6:30
 - b. A CONVICTION: Your heavenly Father knoweth 6:8
 - c. A CONCEPT: My God will supply (Phil. 4:19)
 - d. A COMMITMENT: ~~Take no thought; freedom from economic tyranny. Learn the difference between AWARENESS and ANXIETY.~~ seek FIRST
6:33

4. A FAITH IN WHICH I AM CONFIDENT:

Am CONFIDENT IN My TRUST in God; 3 BASES

I. I know I'm O.K. when I can witness confidently in those areas in which I know the Father wants me to witness:

- 1. That I have found the truth (Matt. 7:15-20) This gives me a unique relationship to those who are false prophets:
 - a. I know their purpose is to devour (Mark 13:22)
 - b. I know they are known by their fruit
 - (1) They deny God's Word (II Peter 1:16-21)
 - (2) They deny God's Work (II Peter 2:1)
 - (3) They deny God's plan; man is his own redeemer (John 2:4) Also note Mrs. Miller's theol. of future

I KNOW I CAN STAY IN THE CONTEXT OF TRUTH BY MY DEDICATION TO GOD'S WORD, WORK AND PLAN.

- 2. That I have found hope (Matt. 7:21-23)
- 3. That I have found serenity (Matt. 7:24-29)
 - STORMS
 - a. I know there will be storms when Satan-will-try-to
 - (1) Satan will create designs to defeat us
 - (2) Circumstances will test us ALL SEEN IN THE LIFE OF JOB
 - (3) Humans will dissuade us
 - b. And I know there is the SAND ; treacherous, shifting, betraying. Just when you think you are set you aren't!
 - (1) There is the sand of shifting commitments (Ernie Gates) And Miss Fogle's sage advice: "If I'm not sanctified I wish to be and so I claim it."
 - (2) There is the sand of known disobedience
 - (3) There is the sand of facile emotions
 - (4) There is the sand of unresolved issues; the chocolate areas of life
 - (5) There is the sand of irresolution
 - (6) There is the sand of self-indulgence
 - c. But I also know there is THE ROCK! There is a place where you can stand. Thank God, there is a place where one can stand!)

III. CONCLUSION: What a wonderful status in which to live. BUT NOTE: IT ALL COMES FROM A TOTAL COMMITMENT TO ABSOLUTES WHICH GOD HOLDS FOR HIS CHILDREN; IT IS NO WAY A SELF-JUDGMENT WHICH WE ARE FREE TO MAKE.