

## ***On The Road To Emmaus***

As I spend time thinking about the topic of prayer, I have some random thoughts on the subject.

First, our prayers are to be affectionate and sincere. They are never to be repetitive or rote. An example of a rote prayer is a prayer that we are taught as children, "Now I lay me down to sleep...", rather our prayers must come from the heart and they are to be sincere. We need to express the sincere affection of our soul to God for all that He has done for us in Christ and the promises that He has given us in Christ Jesus our LORD.

Second, we must realize that prayer opens our hearts to God. Our hearts and hands become filled with the thoughts, attitudes and things of this world. We clutch and hang on to these things that we know and are comfortable with. It is only when we sincerely open our hearts and hands to the Father that He empties them and then He fills them with His grace, peace and provision. Prayer is the tool He uses to accomplish this.

Third, I have discovered that it is through prayer that I have learned to know God and His truth in a very personal way. I learn about God and His work, His Son Jesus in an intellectual way through the Bible, through the observation of nature and listening to what others teach and say about Him. However, it is only through being in His presence in prayer that I learn to know Him personally and have His truth burned into my heart and soul.

Does continual sincere, affectionate prayer have a priority in your life?

## ***A Fellow Traveler***