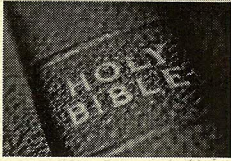


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Perry Hill Road Bulletin

What Prayer Does for the Pray-er

by Dee Bowman

It seems to me significant that our English word “prayer” indicates, by its very nature, someone who does it. A prayer is something prayed by a pray-er.

Have you ever stopped to think about what prayer does for us? It’s interesting.

Prayer makes us like Him whom we adore. People who associate closely begin to adopt one another’s characteristics, personality, demeanor. When you keep in touch with God, you will become more and more like Him. Peter says, “Whereby are given to us exceeding great and precious promises, that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust (**2 Pet. 1:4**). How exciting to think it possible to take part in the divine nature—to be holy, to be full of love, to be considerate of others—and the multitude of other characteristics inherent in the Divine One. If you want to be like God, meditate on His promises and pray for His goodness and it will come to pass—you will be more like Him.

Prayer exercises our spiritual senses. A lack of exercise results in flaccid muscles. A lack of spiritual exercise produces the same flaccidity—only it’s much more serious. You become disinterested, irregular in attendance, unconcerned about spiritual matters. Regular prayer keeps us in good shape, makes us stronger, more able to function in difficult situations, more able to perform in hard places. “Pray without ceasing. In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you” (**1 Thess. 5:17-18**). *Continued on the next page...*

