THANKFUL FOR PRAYER

I am not going to try to list all the things I am thankful for in one small devotional, maybe one thing will be sufficient for the time. Ronnie and Vanessa McGriff sent Kathie and me a card of encouragement not long ago. The card itself was not large or elaborate. It had a scene on the top half of the front that pictured Jesus walking in tall grass and flowers with little children in hand. The scene was nice but not particularly captivating but the words below the picture were what I needed, specifically the first sentence “One of the greatest privileges of knowing Jesus is going to Him in prayer.” The card still sits on my desk at home. I read it most every day.

The gripping part of the sentence was “going” to Him in prayer. We have used this phrase for ages. I have used it all my life but I have had to take time and consider the word “going.” If I am going to church, I get out of bed on Sunday Morning with full intent of going to church. The clothes I wear are specifically for church. The direction I go when I pull out on the highway is determined by the fact I am going to church. Similarly if I am going to the store, I must have my clothes on, shoes on my feet, money in my pocket, keys for the car, etc. When we are going anywhere there is certain preparation that must take place.

Likewise with prayer, there must be some preparation take place. It is not so much of particular clothes, shoes, and direction of east or west at the intersection but rather a preparation of the heart and mind; approaching Christ in the Spirit. Going to Him in prayer is intentional. It may also be intensive. Our load may be heavy. Our list may be long but our time with Him will be worth the effort.

I am very thankful that I can “go” to Him in prayer. Our beautiful hymn states “what a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer.” As born again believers we have been blessed with some mighty big blessings, one of the greatest (while living here on earth) is the privilege of going to Him in prayer.

Yours in Christ,

Brother Randy Burtram