

**"Cease striving and know that I am God."
Psalm 46:10**

The importance of prayer cannot be over emphasized. Sometimes we get so busy we think we just don't have time for devotions or prayer. It's exactly at times like these that we need to "cease striving" and turn things over to the Lord our God.

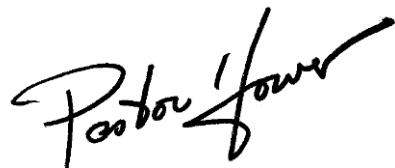
Prayer is not optional for us. Luther once wrote, "God is moved to wrath if we stop praying, for thus His command is ignored. Let us, therefore, pray boldly and confidently; for if what we ask for is not given, something better will be given, because prayer cannot be in vain, as James says: The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much."

To live without prayer is akin to building a house without a hammer. It could be done but the frustration would be extreme. S – L – O – W D – O – W – N..... and invite the Lord into your struggle.

King Solomon in all his wisdom knew the necessity of Divine help. He wrote: "It is vain for you to rise up early and to stay up late; eating the bread of painful labor. For the Lord gives sleep to those He loves." Workaholics, take note! Work smarter....involve the Lord in your day.

You needn't worry that you won't know what to say in prayer. The Lord doesn't need to read lips when He can peer directly into your heart. The Bible reminds us that "Jesus is the One Who died; yes, and Who was raised, and Who is now at the right hand of God and intercedes for us." Jesus knows and will deal with your prayers as kindly as any Father ever cared for the needs of a beloved child.

Go ahead...talk to Him.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pastor Fowler". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.