**WRIGHT (FRANK HALL) SERMONS, 1916**

**Descriptive Summary**

**Title:** Frank Hall Wright sermons  
**Dates:** 1916  
**Accession Number(s):** 1996-091  
**Extent:** 2 inches  
**Language:** Materials are written in English.

**Full finding aid available here:** [http://www.austinseminary.edu/page.cfm?p=1125](http://www.austinseminary.edu/page.cfm?p=1125)

**Biographical Note:**  
Frank Hall Wright (1860-1922) was an evangelist in the western United States.

**Scope and Contents:**  
The Frank Hall Wright Sermons are typed, bound sermons delivered by Wright at First Presbyterian Church of San Antonio in January 1916. These sermons were a component of special evangelistic services intended for both Christians and the general public.

**Related Collections:**  
The Arthur Gray Jones papers at the Austin Seminary Archives include letters written by Frank Hall Wright to Arthur Gray Jones from 1915-1916.

**Restrictions:**  
Materials are available by appointment only. Contact the archivist for details.

**Preferred Citation:** Frank Hall Wright sermons, 1916, Austin Seminary Archives, Stitt Library, Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary

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The Necessity for Prayer.

We need prayer. The Bible commands us to pray. I like to read with Zech: 12:10. "And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications:— I want to tell you we have to pray. This topic is placed to earnest, to Christian people. You would not be here unless you were earnest. "My people shall humbly pray and I will hear their prayers." My people. I am glad he said my people. If we would depend upon the church members alone, you might as well give up. Upon us bears the responsibility of prayer. Why do we need prayer. Because Jesus had to pray. Luke, 6:12, "And it came to pass in those days that he went out into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God." Prayer don't always mean begging. Neither does it always mean supplication. It means fellowship with the Heavenly Father. Some think children don't understand prayer. Once while praying a three and a half year old child asked its mother, "to whom is he praying," and the answer was "to God". Said the child "is not Jesus God?" I want to tell you children know more in the first seven years of their lives about prayer than they will ever learn. --- Jesus prayed all night to God. We do not need to pray that long. ---- Mr. Moody in a certain place on retiring was asked if he spent all the time in prayer. He answered, "No I am up on my prayers." Go on praying, not begging but with thanksgiving, fellowship and rejoicing in the soul. Some one once wanted to follow him to see how he prayed, and waited until the early morning hours to see him pray. And when the great man finally closed his books. He said, "Lord Jesus, it is with us to-
night, as it always has been", and went to bed. Fellowship, "up on" his prayers. That was it. Some of you never pray. Pray for these services. Thank the Lord if it almost kills some of you to pray five minutes. When I say pray, I mean pray. If you can not pray ten minutes get out. Some men when they pray, go all over the earth. Some boys were once out shooting geese. I noticed one boy always shot one goose. The others would shoot into a bunch and seldom get one. This boy shot at one goose and he shot and killed one goose. Shoot at the goose you want to kill. Pray for the soul you want to win and then quit. But you need not pray for effect, neither because you can pray loud or because you can pray beautifully. Perhaps it were better not to pray at all. The best prayer is to say what you want and then stop. One I asked a man to pray, "I said Peden I will call on you to pray," and he did not want to comply with the request. We argued about it until he said, "you took the last argument away from me. I have never heard of a Presbyterian preacher or elder who would not pray. I don't call on them to pray, because they are praying folks any how. On another occasion I said Bro. Peden lead us in prayer. There was a long silence and finally the deacon saved the day. I said, now Peden lead us in prayer. He fell on his knees. ----- and prayed two blooming words, his prayer were only two words, "your children". Anyhow the Lord answered the prayer and saved the boy. Because the spirit of God was on him. Just two words. God knows what you need and want. Once a poor man said,"Lord you have had such good luck with me, try it on the other fellow". He was praying the way he felt.
Some of the best prayers in the Bible are short prayers. "Lord save me". Get it out, that's it. Go out and learn how to pray. A young man drifting on the shores of life, just a neglected waif was once asked to pray, but said, "I can't pray in public." I said, "now John when you retire tonight pray by yourself. He thought nobody heard him. But I did, it would have moved your soul to hear him pray. Jesus went out and prayed. Mark 1:35, "And in the morning, rising a great while before day, he went out and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed". Got up before day. Make time to pray. And so again before the people made him king he prayed. John, 6:15. --- And so again in Matthew, 14:23. ""And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray.-----" And again in Gethsemane, "If it be possible let this cup pass from me" I believe it was the death on the cross that he was praying about. "If it be possible", but "Thy will be done". The devil said, "All the world will I give you, if you fall down and worship me". Ah the temptation, the hideousness of it. And Jesus repudiated it, rejected it. It is written, thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and he said, "Get thee behind me Satan". It may be that some of you are tempted with the same temptations, and you need to pray as the Master set an example before you. Luke, 9. Transfiguration in moments of consecration. When you have had a vision of your responsibility and your privileges and of all the blessed fullness of God's grace. Then is the attitude of consecration. Some people never have a mission vision, they never pray. You don't pray five minutes a day. I don't suppose we are on our knees more than
three minutes a day. But thank God it is not necessary to get on
your knees to pray. Some people never thank the Lord, never re-
joice before the Lord, but always wait until they have cause to fear
or cause to beg before we pray. We ought to love him, he is so pa-

tient.

Ah friend it consecration that counts. Getting close
to the Master. So before raising Lazarus, he prayed. He comes into
the public assembly and for their sake prays the prayer by which
he calls the dead to life. The apostles needed to pray and they did
pray. God promised to bless his children. If you want to see any
body converted pray for that one. It is dangerous to pray unless you
intend to obey. I never wanted to preach to the Indians. I wanted
to go to New York City, and live there. I didn't want to see any more
of this cruel and terrible life. I knew enough of it. I had preached
in the midst of it and seen the hideousness of it. I had seen the
power of God in it.

I prayed the Lord to send somebody to these
Comanches and he sent me. If you pray for the heathen the Lord will
make you feel it. Boldness is what the apostles needed and you
need boldness. All that we need is moral courage. Go to your friends
and say are you saved. I want to pray to help you. The Lord said
"I will never turn away from God's Children, until I have saved them."
I have some terrible messages to bring. There are many people in the
church who have not been born again. Lost in the church. Boldness
is what folks need. Write to your friends and say are you saved.
Not physical courage but moral courage. While preaching to the
Indians, there came to the meetings a man who was a murder, he fell
in love with the elder's daughter. And the elder sent his daughter away. I was afraid the murderer would be offended, and make trouble in the meeting. At that meeting one man did kill another. Then at a meeting held later west of there the first of the congregation to come were this murderer and two other murderers, sitting on a hickory log. I went up and said, "Glad to see you". I was talking two ways. I was not really glad to see him. But remember this man had a sixshooter as long as my arm. The next Sunday morning I said to Bro. Reed, "it is dangerous to go there and meet that man today. We had better not go over there. Friends the sixshooter got me. I wanted to go home and get my Winchester. I could shoot as good as he could, but it would not have looked seemly to lay a winchester across the pulpit and then go on and preach. I needed physical courage. God answered the prayer. I took a pistol in my pocket and went to that meeting.

You need physical courage, you need moral courage to talk to your daughter, to your son, to your husband, to your friends.