

Talking & Walking

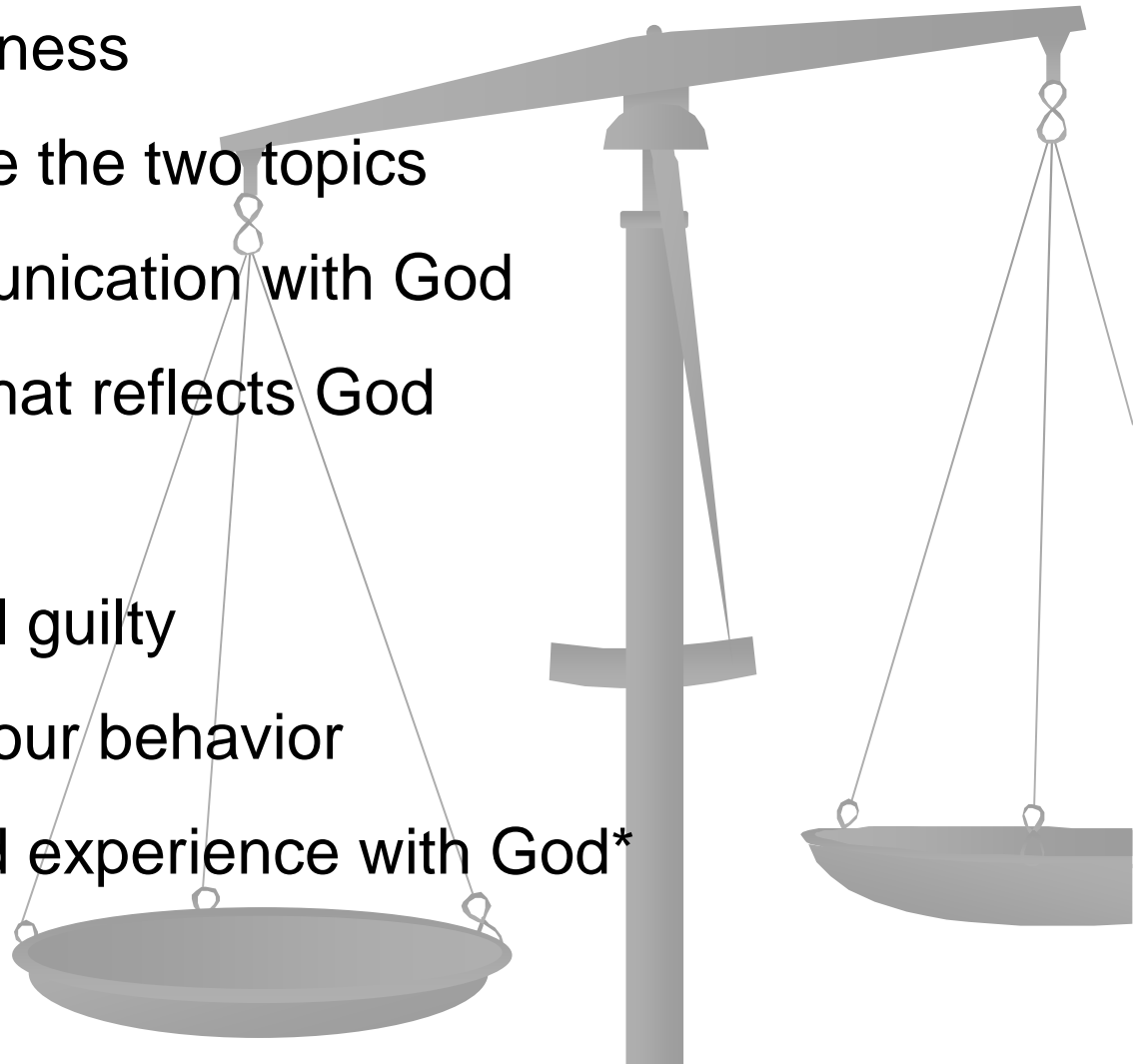
Series on Prayer & Holiness

- cannot separate the two topics
- prayer – communication with God
- holiness – life that reflects God

Series is not about:

- making you feel guilty
- just changing your behavior

* About relationship and experience with God*



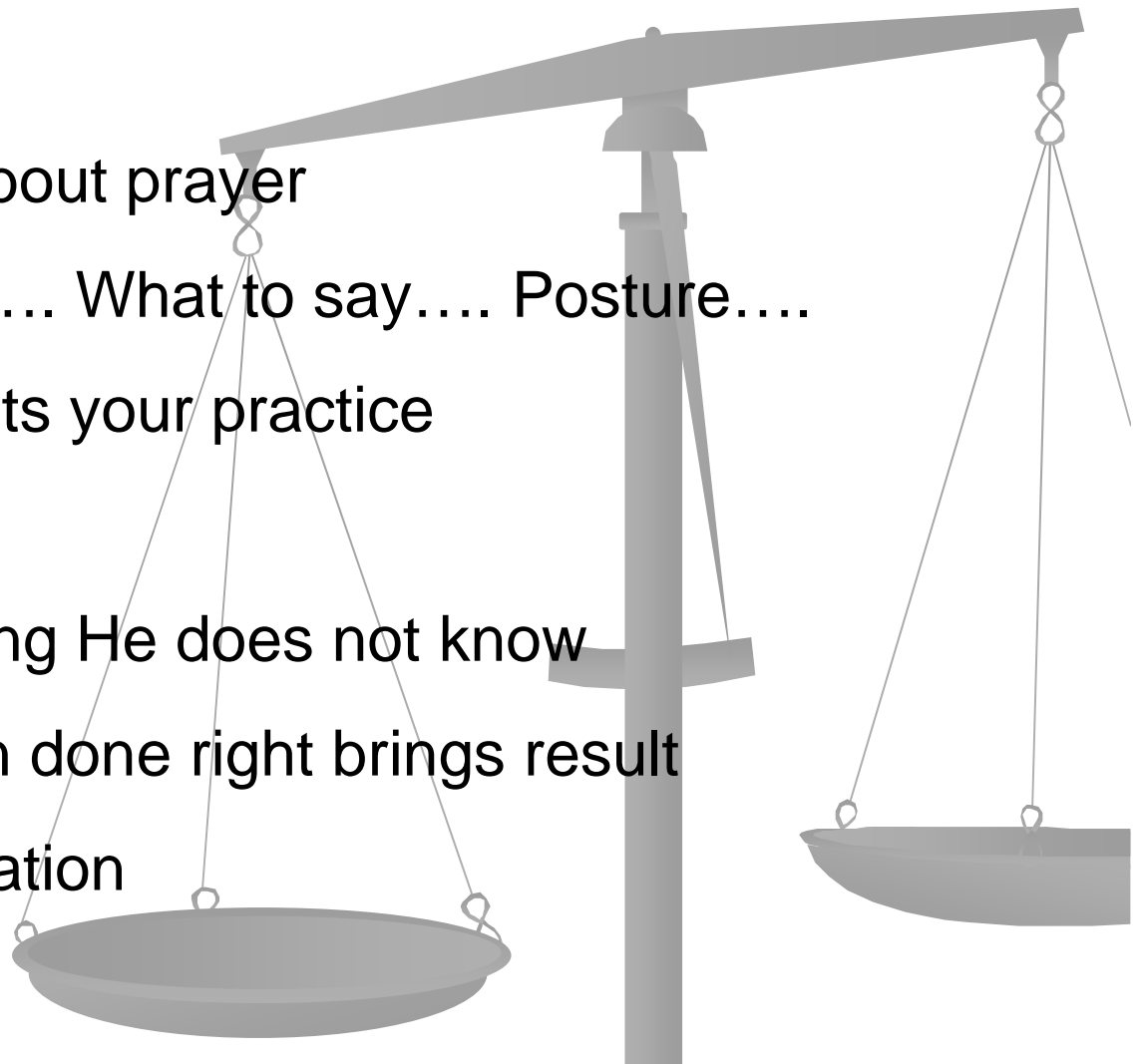
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Talking with God

- much information about prayer
- How to.... When to.... What to say.... Posture....
- what you believe sets your practice

Prayer is Not:

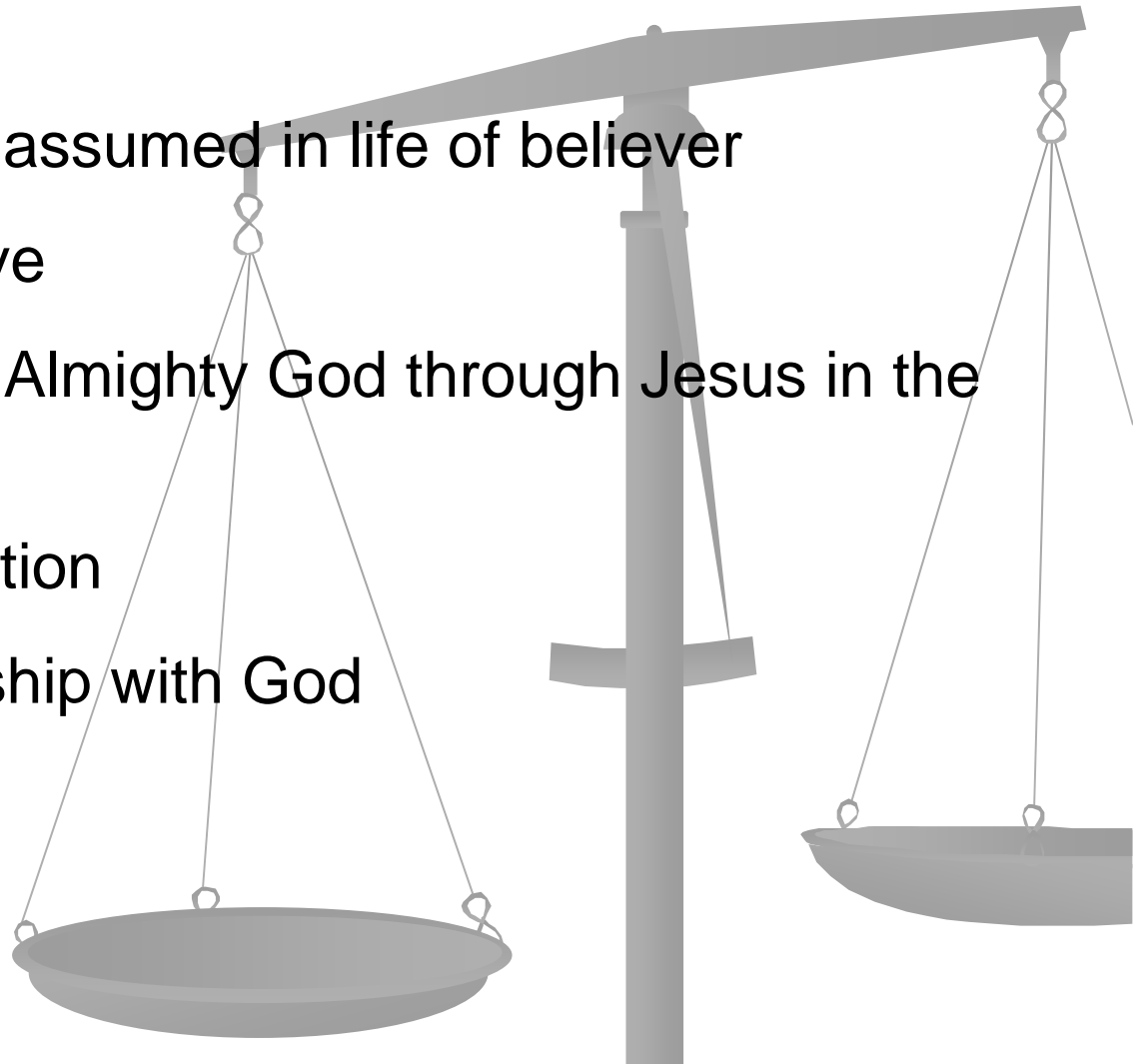
- telling God something He does not know
- magic formula when done right brings result
- one way communication



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Prayer is:

- taught in scripture – assumed in life of believer
- powerful and effective
- communicating with Almighty God through Jesus in the power of the Holy Spirit
- two way communication
- essential to relationship with God



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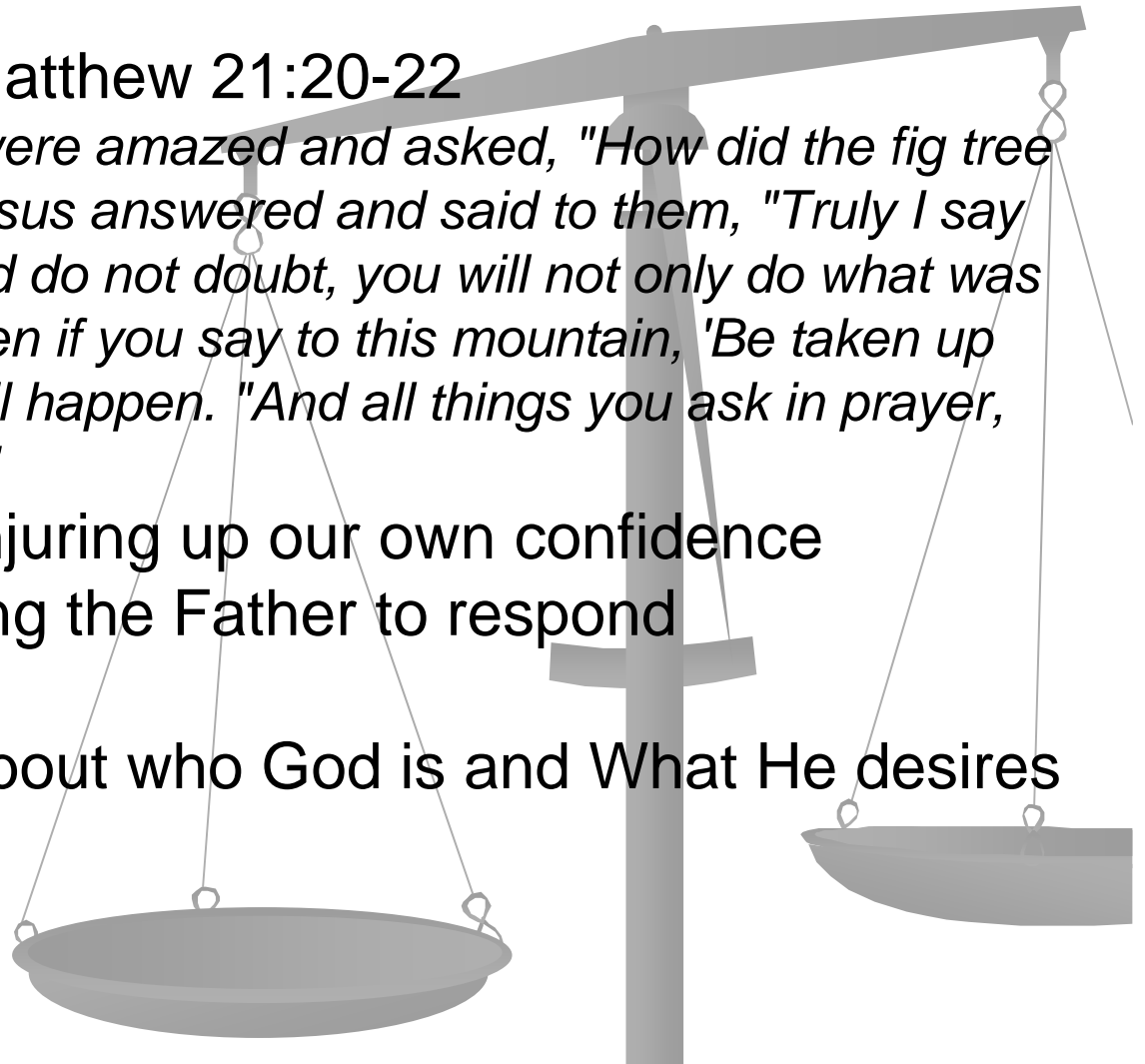
Jesus & Prayer

- Faith & Prayer – Matthew 21:20-22

Seeing this, the disciples were amazed and asked, "How did the fig tree wither all at once?" And Jesus answered and said to them, "Truly I say to you, if you have faith and do not doubt, you will not only do what was done to the fig tree, but even if you say to this mountain, 'Be taken up and cast into the sea,' it will happen. "And all things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive."

- faith is not conjuring up our own confidence
- faith is believing the Father to respond

* What you believe about who God is and What He desires is critical to prayer *

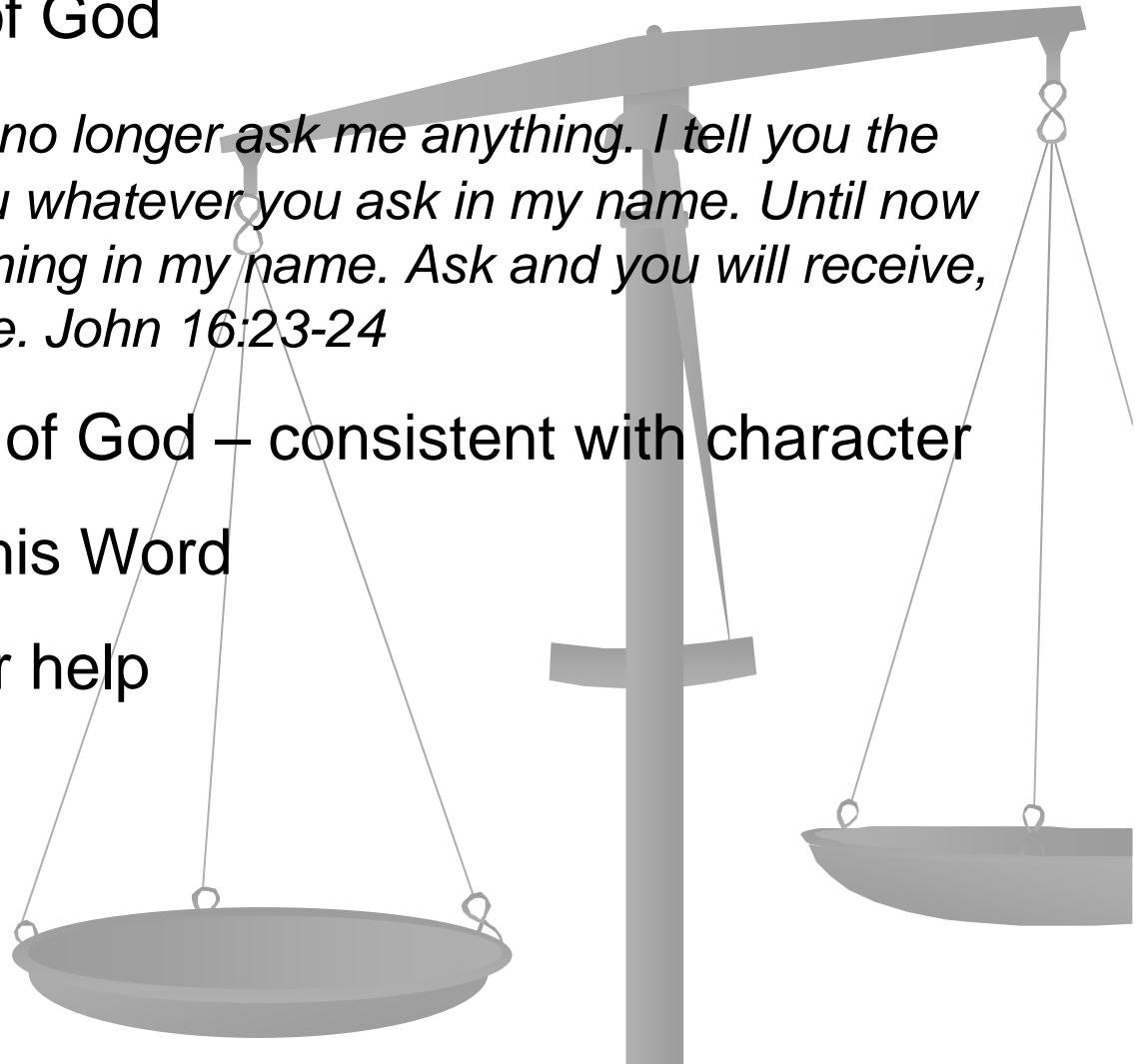


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- Praying in the Will of God

-In that day you will no longer ask me anything. I tell you the truth, my Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete. John 16:23-24

- asking in the Name of God – consistent with character
- know God through his Word
- desires us to ask for help



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- Pray Humbly

 - *Luke 18:9-14*

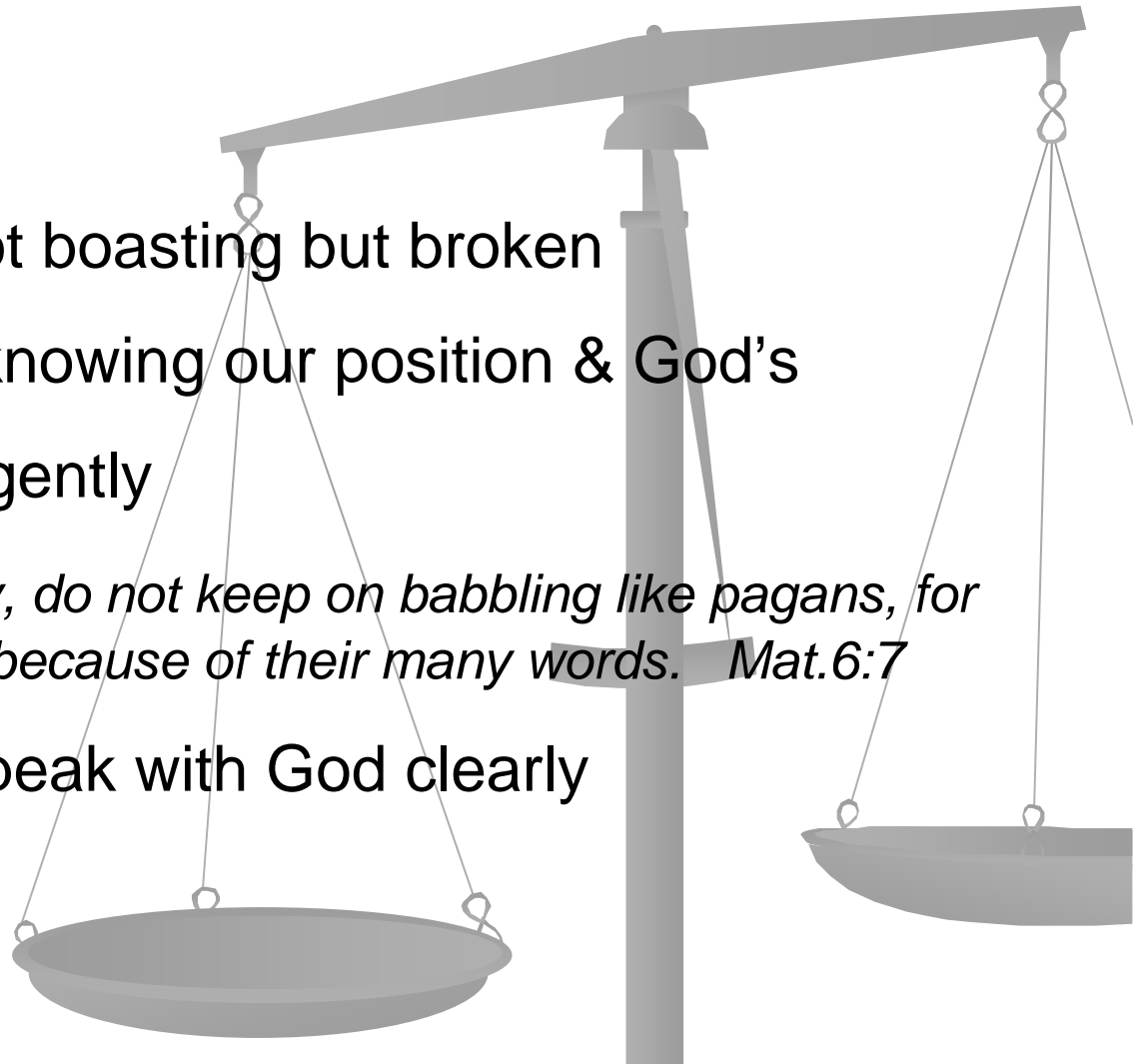
 - attitude matters – not boasting but broken

 - humbly, repentant, knowing our position & God's

- Pray Clearly & Intelligently

 - *And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. Mat.6:7*

 - Longer not better, speak with God clearly



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- Pray Persistently

- Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up. Luke 18:1

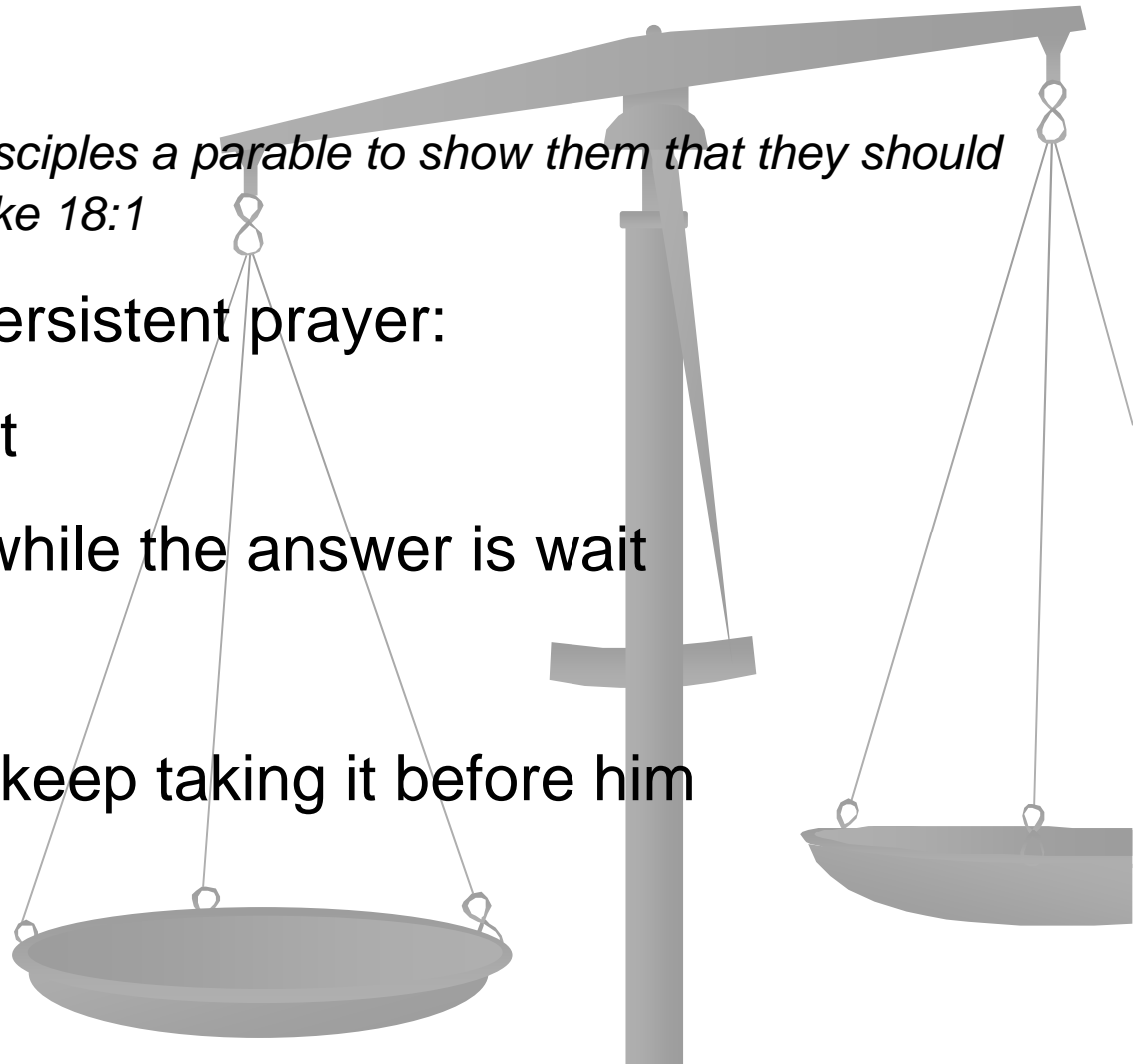
- three things about persistent prayer:

- a) don't lose heart

- b) learn lessons while the answer is wait

- c) builds trust

- if it is in God's will – keep taking it before him



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- Places to Pray:

- a) Public – John 11:41-42

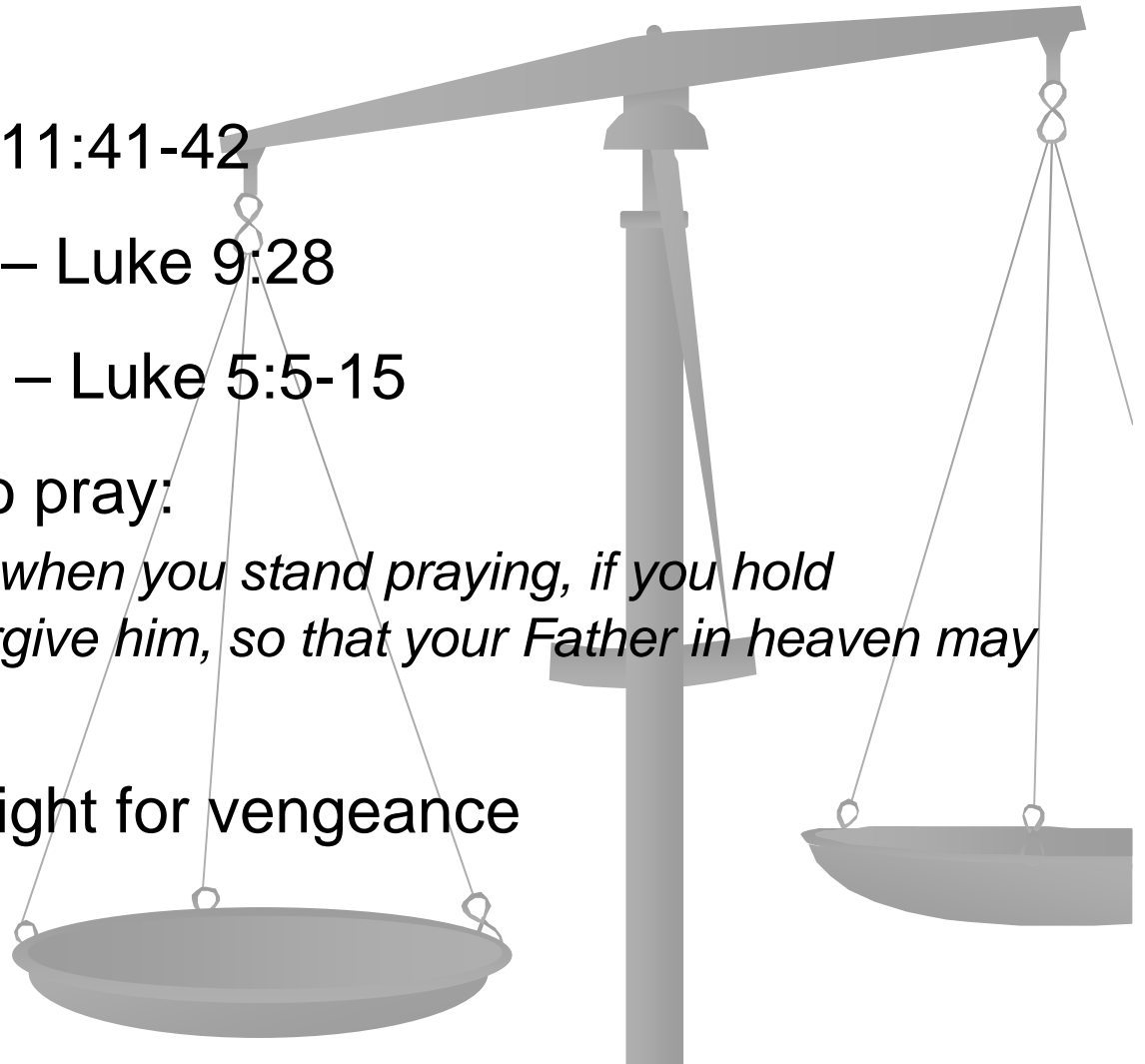
- b) Small Groups – Luke 9:28

- c) Private Prayer – Luke 5:5-15

- Things we are told to pray:

- to forgive : *And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive him, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins."*

- give away our right for vengeance



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- Pray for Our Needs – Matthew 7:7-8

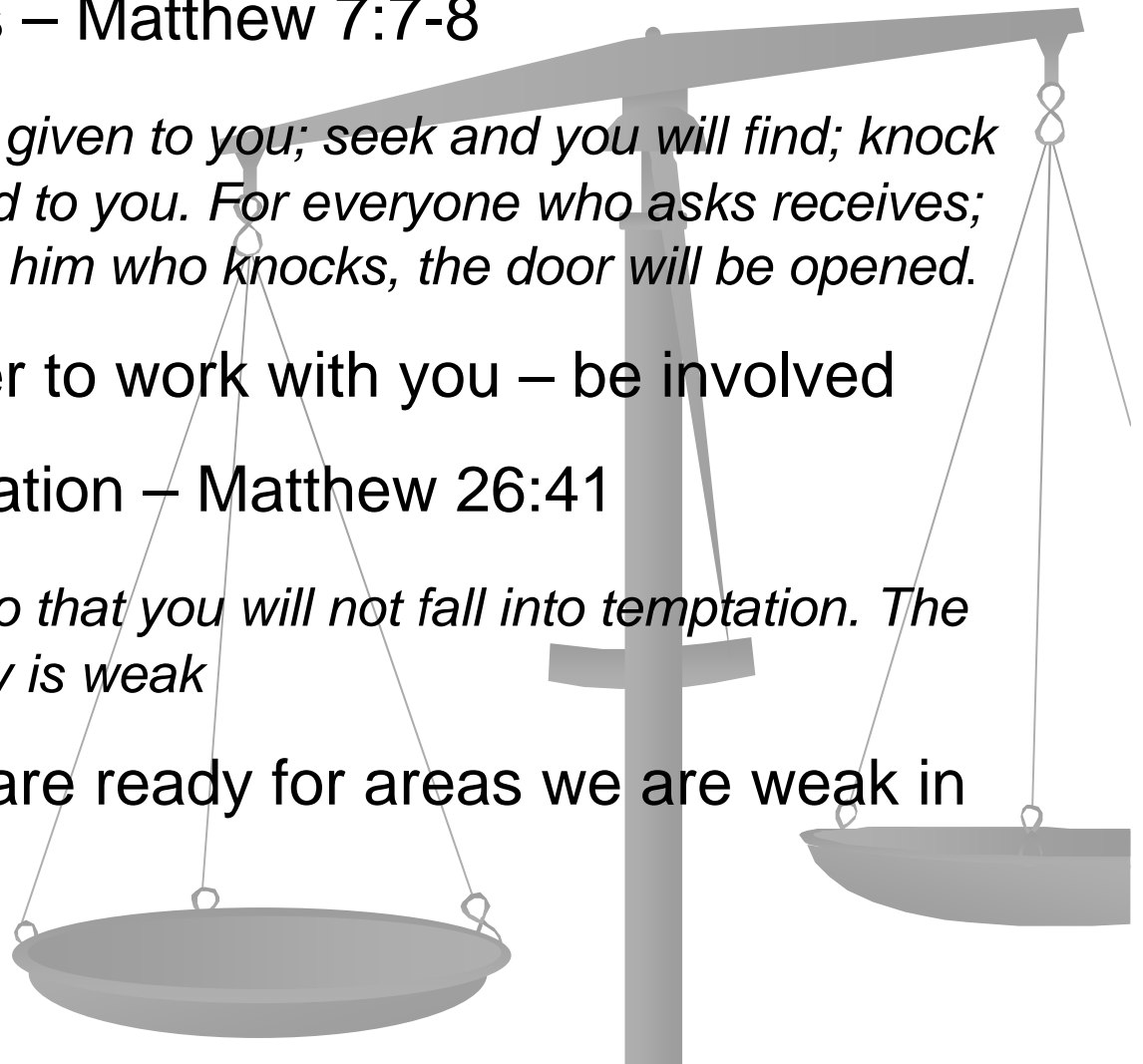
- *Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.*

- desire of the Father to work with you – be involved

- Pray against temptation – Matthew 26:41

- *Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the body is weak*

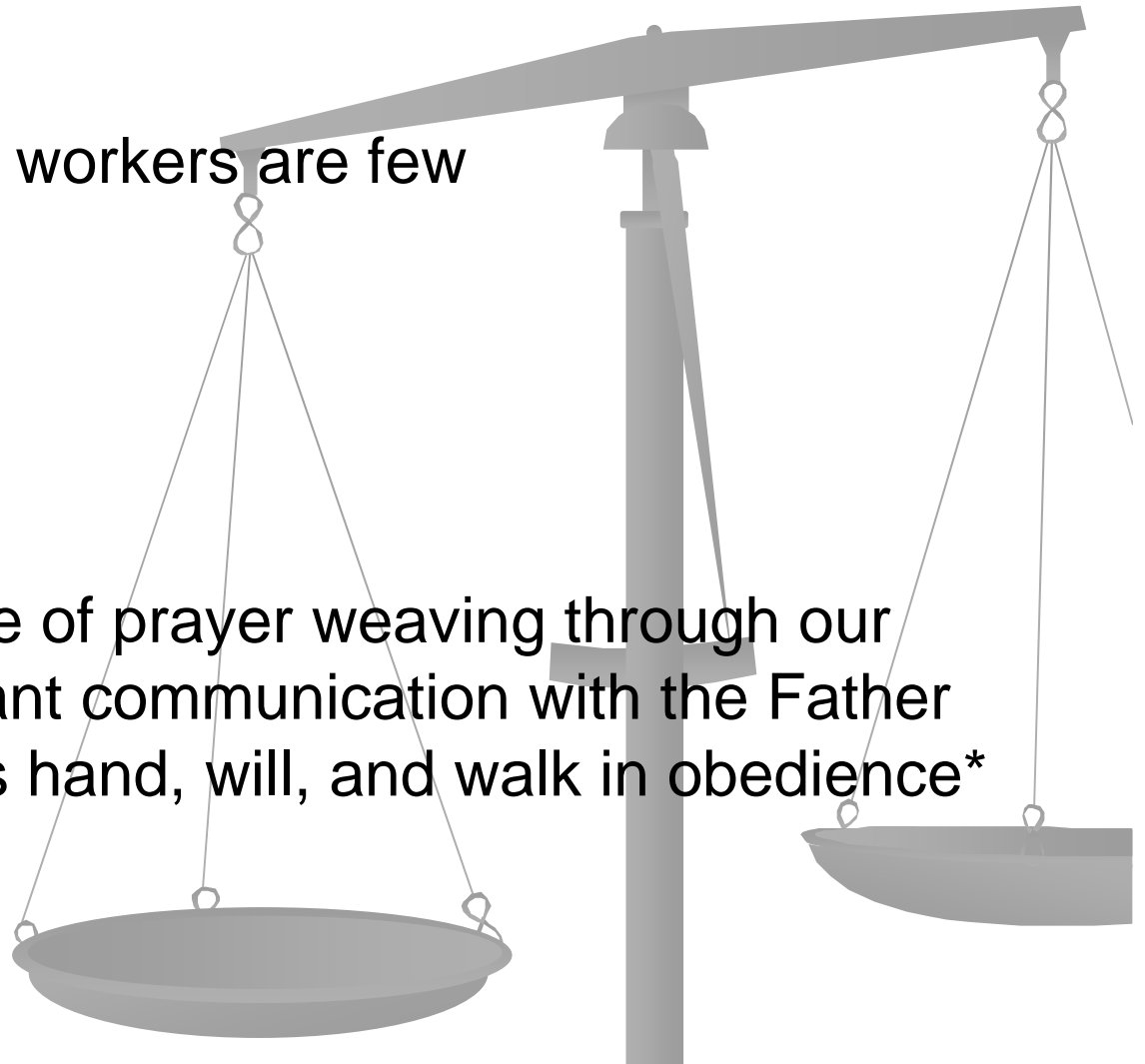
- when we pray we are ready for areas we are weak in



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- Pray for Workers
 - Harvest is full – workers are few
- Pray for Enemies
- Pray for Friends
- Pray for Children

Jesus sets the example of prayer weaving through our lives and days in constant communication with the Father that allows us to see his hand, will, and walk in obedience



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So What

1. Speaking with and Listening to God Expected!
2. Jesus Example to us is clear and compelling
3. Talking with God is the beginning of Walking in holiness

