

Topic of Prayer

Can Struggle with:

- Worth
- Fear
- How To
- Effectiveness

Remember.....

- Righteousness from Christ to You
- -Perfect Love casts out fear
- -Scripture Has Much to Show Us how & result

1. God Instructs us to Pray

- Isaiah 55:6 'seek the Lord, Call upon Him....'
- 1 Thess. 5:17-18 pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.
- Col. 4:2 Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving.
- Phil 4:6 do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

2. God Promises to Hear you

- Proverbs 15:8 "prayer of the upright acceptable"
- Jer. 29:11-14 "11 For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. 12 Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. 13 You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart. 14 I will be found by you, declares the LORD, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all

- the nations and all the places where I have driven you, declares the LORD, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile"
- 2 Chronicles 7:14 "if my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land. ¹⁵ Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayer that is made in this place."

- Psalm 145:18-19 hears their cry & saves them
- Psalm 50:15 "call upon me, hear & deliver you"
- John 15:7 "If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you."
- Matt. 7:7-8 "ask & it will be given, seek & you will find, knock & it will be opened..."
- clear in scripture that God invites us to seek Him and cry out to Him, and that He hears and responds

3. Record of Answered Prayer

- Romans 15:4 "For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope."
 - 1 Kings 3 Solomon asks for wisdom
 - Daniel 9 prayer for people & deliverance
 - 1 Kings 17,18 Elijah prays no rain, rain
 - Luke 6:12 Jesus prays for disciples

4. Taught the How and What to Pray

- scripture is not silent or confusing on this
- Matthew 6:9-10 Lord's Prayer
- 1 John 5:14 "And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us"
- Matthew 9:37 "Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; 38 therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

5. Importance of Prayer

- a) Spiritual Battle
- Eph. 6:10-13 "10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. 11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. 12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places."

- Eph. 6:17-20 "and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, ¹⁸ praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, ¹⁹ and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak."

- b) need one another to participate
- Romans 15:30 "I appeal to you, brothers, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to strive together with me in your prayers to God on my behalf, 31 that I may be delivered from the unbelievers in Judea, and that my service for Jerusalem may be acceptable to the saints, ³² so that by God's will I may come to you with joy and be refreshed in your company. 33 May the God of peace be with you all."

- c) Paul Leaning on Prayer Partners
- 2 Thess. 3:1ff "Finally, brothers, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may speed ahead and be honored, as happened among you, ² and that we may be delivered from wicked and evil men."
- **Col 4:2-4** "Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. ³ At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison— ⁴ that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak."

So What?

- 1. We Need to be People of Prayer
- 2. Be Confident God Hears and Responds
- 3. Be Informed many passages on how and what
- 4. Invitation to Participation
 - sending some of ours to others
 - battle is spiritual enemy seeking to destroy
 - relying on you to intercede:
 - protection, words and wisdom, courage

