



PLUG
INTO THE
POWER
OF **PRAYER**

Prayer for the Lost pt.2

Prayer for the Lost

Remember – Who we are approaching

Psalm 95:3-7 “For the LORD is a great God,
and a great King above all gods.

⁴ In his hand are the depths of the earth;
the heights of the mountains are his also.

⁵ The sea is his, for he made it,
and his hands formed the dry land.

⁶ Oh come, let us worship and bow down;
let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!

⁷ For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture,
and the sheep of his hand.”

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Recall the invitation to Come to Him

- **Rom. 10:9** “because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.”

- **Psalms 145:18-19** “The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.¹⁹ He fulfills the desire of those who fear him; he also hears their cry and saves them.”

- **1 John 5:14** “¹⁴ And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. ¹⁵ And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him.”

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Review the truth – God hears and responds

- **James 5:17-18** “¹⁷ Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. ¹⁸ Then he prayed again, and heaven gave rain, and the earth bore its fruit.”

- **1 Kings 17:19-22** “¹⁹ And he said to her, “Give me your son.” And he took him from her arms and carried him up into the upper chamber where he lodged, and laid him on his own bed. ²⁰ And he cried to the LORD, “O LORD my God, have you brought calamity even upon the widow with whom I sojourn, by killing her son?” ²¹ Then he stretched himself upon the child three times and cried to the LORD, “O LORD my God, let this child's life come into him again.” ²² And the LORD listened to the voice of Elijah. And the life of the child came into him again, and he revived.”

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Key Truths so far:

- Prayer is 2 way communication
 - have the Holy Spirit in us
 - sheep know my voice
- Given authority in the Spiritual realm – Matt. 18
 - ask according to his will
 - greater things than these will you do
- Practice of Jesus, taught to followers
 - when you pray
 - central in early church, clear call in scripture

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An Uncomfortable Reality.....

- **'all have sinned & fall short' – Rom. 3:23**
- **'stand guilty without excuse' – Rom. 1:18-20**
- **'sentence is death', eternal conscious torment is the judgement handed down – Matt. 25:46**
- **'wrath of God real & will be poured out' – Romans 2:4-5**
- **one way, one name under heaven that we can be saved from what we deserve – Acts 4:12**

“And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

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- **God provided the way – John 3:16-18** “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸ Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.”

- **Gift that cannot be earned or deserved – ‘it is by grace you are saved through faith’**

- **Free will – demands a personal response from every one**

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God's Heart Clearly Revealed

- **Motivated by Love – Rom. 5:8-9** “⁸ but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹ Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God.”

- **Desire is None Perish – 2 Peter 3:9-10** “⁹ The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. ¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.”

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- Plan includes our participation – Eph.2:10

“For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.”

- Ambassadors, reconciling, 2 Cor. 5:18-22

Our Participation

a) Love Them

- more than praying for.....

- allow you heart to be affected towards....

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- Jesus Clear Example

- **John 13:34** “³⁴ A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another.” *(love like Jesus did)*

- **Romans 5:8** “⁸ but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” *(love sinners)*

- **John 15:12, 13** “¹² This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³ Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.” *(serve them – put ahead of self)*

- **John 13:35** “³⁵ By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” *(example)*

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- **Matt. 5:43-44** “⁴³ You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ ⁴⁴ But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, ⁴⁵ so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. ⁴⁶ For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? ⁴⁷ And if you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same?” *(their worthiness or response doesn't affect the instruction)*

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- if you love like this know – will have heart broken, emotions affected.

- Rom. 9:1-3 “I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience bears me witness in the Holy Spirit—² that I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart.³ For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my kinsmen according to the flesh.”

- what do you do with that emotion, those you love at risk of terrible consequence?

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b) Entrust them to God

- loves them and desires relationship with them
- spiritual battle – God can reveal himself
- recall the truth, God is able

- **Luke 18:26-27** “²⁶ Those who heard it said, “Then who can be saved?” ²⁷ But he said, “What is impossible with man is possible with God.””

- **Isaiah 59:1** “Behold, the LORD's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save, or his ear dull, that it cannot hear;”

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- **Acts 17:24-27** “The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, ²⁵ nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. ²⁶ And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, ²⁷ that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us.”

- **seeks the wandering – Luke 7:36**

- **seeks the uninterested – Acts 16:16**

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c) Be Willing for God to Use You

- **give a reason for the hope – 1 Peter 3:15-16** “¹⁵ but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, ¹⁶ having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame.”

preach, support the gospel – Rom. 10:14-15 “For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”¹⁴ How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? ¹⁵ And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!”

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- **willing to be sent – Isaiah 6:8**

“⁸ And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” Then I said, “Here I am! Send me.””

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So What

- 1. The truth is uncomfortable and scary**
- 2. God has provided a way – gospel is ‘good news’**
- 3. Prayer moves the hand of God – revealing truth**
- 4. Our role:**
 - love them**
 - intercede and persist**
 - entrust them to God**
 - willing to respond to his call**

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