

Prayer | Anchored

WEEK ONE | PASTOR BOB JOHNSTON

We must be anchored in prayer.

The Power of Prayer - Acts 12:1-11

Spiritual poverty is due to lack of prayer.

- ◇ A powerless church is due to lack of prayer. (James 5:13-18)

Prayer is a lifestyle, not an event.

- ◇ In prayer that we probe spiritual realities.
- ◇ In prayer we communicate with God.
- ◇ In prayer we access the arsenal of heaven.
- ◇ Prayer gives heaven permission to invade earth.
- ◇ Through prayer – we are able to pray heaven down and keep hell from rising.

The Formula for Effective Prayer (James 5:16).

- ◇ “effective” – as a military meaning: equipped and prepared for battle; for action, energized.
- ◇ “fervent” means intensely passionate, with burning emotion.
- ◇ Pray according to the Word of God, the promise of God (1 Kings 18:41-43)
- ◇ Often you’ll will hear, before you see (Hebrews 11:1)

SCRIPTURES

James 5:17

James 5:18

1 Kings 17:1

1 Kings 18:1

1 Kings 18:41-43

Hebrews 11:1

Isaiah 40:31

HEBREWS 11:11

“Faith shows the reality of what we hope for; it is the evidence of things we cannot see”

Small Group | Questions

“Do we really think we can experience integration of heart and mind and spirit with an erratic prayer life?” - Richard J. Foster

1. From a scale of 1 - 10 (1 being non-existent, 10 a thriving, life-centered discipline), how would you describe your prayer life? Explain.
2. Do you know people who pray often, effectively, and fervently? How would you describe their lives and faith? Discuss.
3. Pastor Bob mentioned prayer is an anchor to our faith. Why do you think it was important for Jesus to pray so often? Discuss.
4. Developing healthy spiritual rhythms takes some effort and determination. Read Luke 18:1-8 together.
 - ◇ Read Luke 18:1 outloud again. What do you think this means? (Think: What happens when we pray vs. when we don't)
 - ◇ How can you cultivate a healthy prayer life?
 - ◇ What are some things you can do to help you stick with it?

Go (Application)

Individual: There are several ways to pray effectively, along with different kinds of prayers. This week, find a book, resource, or even an individual that will encourage you to develop your prayer life.

- ◇ Recommended book: Prayer: Finding the Heart's True Home by Richard J. Foster

With Others: Commit to corporate prayer by attending Thursday night prayer meetings at GKM at 7 pm (online and in person in the sanctuary).

For Others: Call someone this week you haven't spoken to in awhile. See how they're doing, and offer to pray for any requests they may have.

