

His Will, His Way — The Power of Prayer

January 7, 2024

BIG IDEA: When we take full advantage of the Power of Prayer, we will find ourselves in the Will of God!

1 Thessalonians 5:16–18

“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”

- **Prayer is Direct Access to the Living God. And THAT is something to rejoice. (vs 16)**

- **Rejoice: Be in a state of _____, _____, or _____.**

The kind of rejoicing is not only a feeling and expression of joy but also an action one chooses.

- **What was the cost? What did God pay to provide us the direct access to Himself?**

Ephesians 2:18

Romans 5:2

- **Through Jesus’ redemptive work on the Cross we can cross from the of the natural world to the _____ world.**

John 14:6

Hebrews 10:19–22

- **Prayer guides toward stillness and gratitude. (vs 17)**

- *Scripture is clear! Prayer can dramatically change situations, people, and on occasion, the very course of nature itself. But what prayer changes the most is _____.*

- **Prayer aligns us to HIS will, not the other way around and helps us to trust God. (vs 18)**

- *“To believe that God can reach us and bless us in the ordinary junctures of daily life is the stuff of prayer... But when we pray, genuinely pray, the real condition of our heart is revealed. This is as it should be. This is when God truly begins to work with us. The adventure is just beginning.” - Richard Foster*

Truth in Action:

- 1. We have DIRECT access to God of the Universe! Let’s recommit ourselves to act and pray that way.**
- 2. Let’s not over-complicate it... and Pray without ceasing!**
- 3. Pray First. Pray Often.**



Please understand we want to help you know Jesus personally and journey with you in taking fresh steps of obedience daily. We would love to pray with you and for you. Join us at the end of the service for prayer or send us your request on the Connect Card and we will lift them up throughout the week.

Table Talk

Warm Up:

1. Under what circumstances have you caught yourself saying “All we can do is pray”? How can praying first help us in those circumstances?
2. What does it mean to intercede? Has there been a situation where someone has interceded on your behalf?
 - a. Read Romans 8:26. Discuss the blessing that we have in the Holy Spirit interceding in the way Paul mentions.
3. Read Philippians 4:6–7. What happens when we pray?
4. What are some ways you can Energize your prayer life as an individual, as a couple, as a family, and a peer group?