

Graves into Gardens

STORIES OF TRANSFORMATION



Bible study for the week starting March 8, 2026

SHARE

Think about a time when prayer changed something for you. What changed the most: the situation, you, or BOTH?

READ/STUDY/DISCUSS

1. Read [John 16:31-17:17](#). Jesus warns us we will have trouble but encourages us to take heart because He has overcome the world. How does this change how we pray?
2. When Jesus prays, He focuses on glorifying the Father. When we pray, often we ask for things. What would it look like if we shifted our prayers to focus on relationship with God and His glory?
3. Jesus prays for protection and sanctification for His disciples. Based on this and what you heard in the sermon, what does Jesus want to produce in us through prayer?
4. Read [1 Kings 8:22-30](#). Solomon remarks that even the highest heavens cannot contain God, yet God hears our prayers. What does this teach us about God's greatness and His willingness to listen?
5. Read [Hebrews 7:23-28](#). Jesus "always lives to make intercession" for us. How does knowing Christ is doing this for us reshape our fears, anger or pride?
6. Which area of your prayer life needs growth right now: conversation with God, trusting in His plan, some other relational element? What is one practical step in your prayer life you can take this week?

PRAY

Take a few minutes to pray intentionally: think relationship over ritual, be honest about fears and frustrations, ask God to reshape you in grace and faith to trust His plan. And seek rest in the presence of Jesus!

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PRAYER CHANGES THINGS

John 16:31-17:17 (1 Kings 8:22-30; Hebrews 7:23-28)

March 8, 2026 – Pastor Eric Van Scharrel

Today starts with an INVITATION.

A few points about prayer:

1. Prayer is not empty RITUAL; it is about RELATIONSHIP.

- Prayer is not a SPEECH; it is a CONVERSATION.

2. Prayer CHANGES us.

- Our FEARS are reshaped into FAITH;

- Our ANGER is reshaped into GRACE; and

- Our PRIDE is reshaped into HUMILITY.

God hears every WORD, sees every ACTION, knows our every THOUGHT, and even perceives the condition of our HEARTS.

3. Prayer TRUSTS the Father's PLAN.

4. Prayer PRODUCES things:

- CONVICTION;

- CONFIDENCE; and

- COMMUNION.

Illustration: kids FISHING

Image: granny (prayer) WARRIORS

God is LISTENING.

For this Wednesday, read Jonah 2:1-10.