

Name: _____

The Power and Purpose of Prayer

I. Power in Prayer

A. Where is the source of power in all our prayers?

1. See Hebrews 10:19-23; Hebrews 4:16
 - a) The sprinkling of the _____ of Christ
 - (1) Justification
 - (2) Access
2. See Romans 8:26-30
 - a) The Holy Spirit helps us pray _____!
 - (1) We will see later that a kingdom-minded prayer is an effective prayer

B. An example in Paul's ministry of effective prayer

1. See Ephesians 3:14-21
 - a) This models perfectly what Jesus had to say about prayer in Matthew and Luke

II. Practice of Prayer: What Did God Say?

A. Now we will compare the two texts in Scripture that Jesus gives us on the practice of prayer at the request of the disciples

1. See Matthew 6:5-15

B. Observations

1. Intentionality and heart _____ matter most!
2. God does give rewards to those who pray (context)
3. God knows what we need, but we still come to Him as a Father

C. Breaking it down

1. v. 9—God is in heaven (Isa 6 imagery)
2. v. 10—God's way is over my way
3. v. 11—Give us what we need for today
4. v. 12—Forgive us so we can forgive others
5. v. 13—Keep us from the temptation to sin
6. v. 14-15—Forgiveness of others is key
 - a) Verses 11-15 exist so we can accomplish verse 10!

D. Now let's look at the mirror text

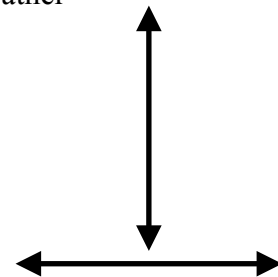
1. See Luke 11:1-13

E. Observations

1. The basic tenets are the same, just shortened
2. This took place after Jesus prayed, and the disciples observed Him and asked how they should pray! (_____)
3. Jesus spends more time in a teaching story about persistence and the relationship the praying person has to God in terms of getting a response
 - a) Note: The relationship MUST be established, and we cannot forget that God's _____ be done over our own.

F. Do we pray in times of need, or can we pray for our desires?

1. See 1 Peter 5:7; Matthew 6:30-34; Lamentations 3:22-24



- a) Conclusion: Our hearts and desires change the closer we get to God and the more we are in tune with His purposes and His plan (Devotions, Bible, Prayer, Fellowship)

III. The Attributes of Prayer

- A. Constant [Romans 12:12; Ephesians 6:18; Colossians 4:2]
- B. Not anxious, but full of _____ [Philippians 4:6; Colossians 4:2]
- C. Faithful amid suffering [James 5:13-16]
- D. Based on Matthew 6/Luke 11
 - 1. Private
 - 2. Succinct
 - 3. Humble
 - 4. Persistent
 - 5. God glorifying
 - 6. Trusting/faithful
 - 7. Real

IV. The Discipline to Pray

- A. Get _____ often [Luke 5:16; Mark 1:35; Matthew 14:23; Luke 6:12]
- B. Spend all night if you have to! [Luke 6:12]
- C. Don't let _____ or a busy schedule deter you!
- D. When did Jesus pray?
 - 1. In the midst of a busy ministry [Luke 5:16]
 - 2. In staying on mission [Mark 1:35; Luke 4:42-43]
 - 3. After a major miracle/serving [Matthew 14:23]
 - 4. All night before choosing the Twelve [Luke 6:12]

V. Applications

- A. Prayer is not a pager for the butler, but a war walkie-talkie—John Piper
 - 1. You won't know what prayer is for until you know all of life is war!
- B. In praying for God's will, you are committed to laboring in your life to see it come to pass!
- C. Our secret life is cultivated over time and is rarely seen by others; that is not the driving force, but devotion to God and His kingdom is!