

Notes:

Sunday August 17, 2025

Faithfully Rely Upon God in Prayer

Genesis 32:1-12

Brian Anderson, Lead Pastor

"Tell me what a man's prayers are, and I will soon tell you the state of his soul. Prayer is the spiritual pulse." - J.I. Packer

Martin Luther once prayed for greater faith and diligence:

"Dear God, if only we were as diligent to pray, at least with a longing in the heart, as you are in coaxing, bidding, commanding, assuring, and constraining us to pray.

Unfortunately, we are too lazy and ungrateful! Forgive us, dear Lord, and strengthen our faith. Since I cannot pay the penalty, and my name has not prestige, let satisfaction be made in the name of my Lord Jesus Christ. Amen."

It is a good thing to let prayer be the first thing in the morning and the last thing at night!

1. Praise the Covenant-keeping God. — v.9a
 - a. Prayer is for God's glory and for our benefit — in that order.
2. Cast yourself upon the sure Word of God. —v.9b
3. Submit yourself humbly before the almighty God. — v.10

When we are reminded of our sin, it doesn't mean that you don't matter or that you aren't important or that you don't have value. You are just reminded that YOU brought NOTHING to the table. God has given you EVERYTHING.

Our confidence should come from fearing God and being solely rooted IN CHRIST.

4. Trust in the perfect will of God. —vv.11-12

Don't be afraid to be wrong in your praying!

Don't be afraid to pray what is on your heart.

God uses prayer to radically re-orient our lives.

"Prayer does not inform God of what he does not know, nor does it get him to do what he is reluctant to do. Prayer does not change God; it changes us." - Al Mohler Jr