

NOTES: Jesus People | Jesus People Pray
September 23-24, 2023 | Compelled Church

Psalm 116:1-2

Two Accounts of Jesus' Anger

"After looking around at them with anger, grieved at their hardness of heart, He said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." And he stretched it out, and his hand was restored." (Mark 3:5, NASB95)

"And Jesus entered the temple and drove out all those who were buying and selling in the temple, and overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who were selling doves. And He said to them, "It is written, 'MY HOUSE SHALL BE CALLED A HOUSE OF PRAYER'; but you are making it a ROBBERS' DEN.'" (Matthew 21:12-13, NASB95)

Prayer is communication with God. Prayer is talking, listening, and being with God.

Prayer is a relationship and conversation with God.

Jesus invites His people to invite Him into their lives and circumstances through prayer.

1. Praying churches experience breakthroughs.

Acts 4:23-31

"And when they had prayed, the place where they had gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak the word of God with boldness." (Acts 4:31, NASB95)

2. Praying churches have praying leaders (Acts 6).

Acts 6, they chose deacons to feed the widows so the apostles could pray.

The seven had to be full of the Spirit, faith, and wisdom (6:3-5). (Leaders, board, small group)

"But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." (Acts 6:4, NASB95) "The word of God kept on spreading; and the number of the disciples continued to increase greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were becoming obedient to the faith." (Acts 6:7, NASB95)

3. Praying churches have opportunities to pray.

4. Praying churches commonly experience answers to prayer (Acts 12:12-14).

Answers can be "yes" "no" or "wait". Prayer is not about getting what we want, but what God wants.

5. Praying churches value prayer together.

6. Praying churches Pray all kinds of prayers

"And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people." (Ephesians 6:18, NIV)

Prayer is inviting Jesus into the circumstances of your life.

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1. Read Psalm 116:1-2 Can you relate to David? Look back on your life and the faithfulness of God. Take a few minutes to be grateful or write out the times God was faithful. *"I love the LORD, for he heard my voice; he heard my cry for mercy. Because he turned his ear to me, I will call on him as long as I live."* (Psalm 116:1–2, NIV)

2. I believe religion makes God angry. Just going through the motions of Jesus' rules without living out the relationships God has for us, can harden our hearts. We too can go through the motions without engaging Jesus.

Prayer is communication with God. Prayer is talking, listening, and being with God.
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3. What circumstances in your life, have you invited God into through prayer? What is going on in your life that you have not?

4. Journal the ways you should pray when God is invited into your life's circumstances.

5. Write down a prayer breakthrough you have experienced in your life.

6. What ways do you pray for your family?

7. Pastor says God answers prayer. He may answer with "no" or "wait". Prayer is not getting our way but praying "God's will be done". What have you prayed for, and God said "no" and you are now glad for that?

8. When do you participate in prayer with others? (Small group, home, friends, services)

9. Are there answers to prayer in your life you have never acknowledged or thanked Father for? Do that now.

10. *"And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people."* (Ephesians 6:18, NIV)

11. Where is your favorite place to pray? Have you ever taken a prayer walk? If so, where?

12. Do you say the Lord's Prayer during your prayer time? Do you pray throughout the day?

13. This week, take time and commit to praying in the morning and also when you are winding down for the day.

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:6–7, NIV)