

Community Bible Church Sermon Discussion Questions: 24/25 & 28 Pastor Ed Newton

Title: Can You Hear Me Now?

Text: Now Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he finished, one of his disciples said

to him, "Lord, teach us to pray..." Luke 11:1

Target: The <u>Person</u> of God has to become more important than our <u>Petitions</u> to God.

- 1. Point of Prayer: (Not a monologue, but a dialogue)
 - a. Strengthens our Relationship with God: (Jeremiah 29:12)
 - . Know His Love for Us.
 - . Express Our Love for Him.
 - . Admit Our Shortcomings.
 - Receive His Grace.
 - a. Anchor my Trust In God: (Ps. 46:10)
 - . Know God's Nearness.
 - Find Hope.
 - . Communicate My Feelings.
 - a. Change My Perspective: (Psalm 139:1-4)
 - Not Alone.
 - . Gain Strength.
 - . All Things Working Together.
 - . Need and Want.

Question #1: How does knowing that God loves us personally change the way we approach prayer?

Question #2: Can you share a time when admitting your shortcomings to God led to a deeper sense of His grace in your life?

- 2. <u>Power of Prayer:</u> "Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us" (Ephesians 3:20)
 - a. Salvation Happens: (Romans 10:13)
 - a. Forgiveness Provided: (1 John 1:9)
 - a. Revival for a Nation: (2 Chronicles 7:14)
 - a. Gain Wisdom: (James 1:5)
 - a. Supernatural Happens: (James 5:14-15)
 - a. Peace is Provided: (Phil. 4:6-7)
 - a. **Devil is Defeated:** (James 4:7)
 - a. In Jesus Name: John 14:14

Question #3: How has prayer played a role in your journey towards understanding and accepting salvation?

Question #4: How has prayer contributed to experiencing peace in your life, especially during anxious times?

- 2. Pattern for Prayer: "He who kneels the most, stands the best" D.L. Moody.
 - a. Type Prayers: Not a formula, but a foundation!
 - Lord's Prayer: (Matt. 6:9-13)
 - . Priestly Prayer: (Numbers 6:24-26)
 - . Solomons Prayer: (1 Kings: 10-12) (1 Kings 8:22-61)
 - . **Prayer of Jabez:** (1 Chronicles 4:10)
 - . Jehoshaphat Prayer: (2 Chronicles 20:6-12)
 - a. Template Prayers: Make it yours!
 - . **Up** (Father) /**In** (Self) /**Out** (Others)
 - . P(raise). R(epent). A(sk). Y(ield).
 - . A (doration). C(onfession). T(hanksgiving). S(upplication).
 - . **H**(onor). **E**(xamine). **A**(sk). **R**(equest). **T**(hank).
 - . **E**(nter-Boldly). **X**(clude-Negativity). **A**(sk-Question). **L**(isten-Words, Images,Songs). **T**(est-Scripture).
- 2. <u>Pursuit</u> of Prayer: It is not how long you pray, but how often you pray.
 - a. Stay Constant: (1 Thess: 5:17/Romans 12:12)
 - a. Stay Persistent: (Matthew 7:7/ Luke 18:1)
 - a. Stay Watchful: (Ephesians 6:18/Colossians 4:2/Matthew 26:41)
 - a. Stay Expectant: (Mark 11:24)

Question #5: What are some practical ways you can stay constant in prayer amidst a busy schedule?

Takeaway: The greatest tragedy of life is not <u>unanswered</u> prayer, but <u>unoffered</u> prayer. (F.B.Meyer)

Question #6: Reflect on the statement, "The greatest tragedy of life is not unanswered prayer, but unoffered prayer." How does this challenge your approach to prayer?

Question #7: Can you share a specific area where you are seeking God's guidance or wisdom right now?