

Problems With Prayer

Mark 14:32-42
Pastor Dave Bennett

Introduction

The prayer life of Jesus

“Prevailing”

1. constant, pervasive
2. overcoming, victorious

We believe that through Jesus Christ we can enjoy personal, intimate access to God through prayer and that persistent, believing prayer is critical to our effectiveness in carrying out Christ’s mission. We believe the promise of Jesus that all things are possible through prayer. We accept his invitation to keep on asking, seeking and knocking, as children approaching with confidence a loving father. We also recognize that we are in a spiritual war zone. We desire to cultivate a lifestyle of constant prayer, both individually and together, at home, in the church and in the world.

I. Missing God’s Heart – “*Abba, Father*”

Mark 10:33,34; Isaiah 53:4-6; II Corinthians 5:21
John 13:21

II. Missing God’s Power – “Everything is possible for you”

Luke 1:37; Matthew 19:26

III. Missing God’s Purpose – “Yet not I will, but what you will”

Daily Bible Readings

April 6 – 12

Follow-Throughs

Monday

Luke 3:21-22; 4:1-2,13-14, 42; 5:15,16; 6:12,13; 9:18,28,29

What do these passages tell you about the priority of prayer and solitude in the life of Jesus? How important is time alone with God for you? What is your current pattern of prayer?

Tuesday

Luke 10:1,2; 11:1-13; 18:1-8

What do these passages tell you about the priority that Jesus wanted prayer to have in the life of his disciples? Which lessons in prayer can you apply today?

Wednesday

Matthew 6:25-34; 7:7-12

In these verses, what does Jesus teach his disciples about the heart of the Heavenly Father? If we really believe what Jesus says, how will it affect our praying?

Thursday

John 14:11-13; 15:5-7; 16:19-24

On the Thursday night of Passion Week, as Jesus ate the Passover meal with his disciples, he made some incredible statements about the power available through prayer. What conditions does Jesus attach to these promises about prayer? Ask the Lord to help you to pray with confidence in his power.

Friday

Luke 23:26-49

What prayers of Jesus are recorded here by Luke? How did Jesus’ conversation with God continue even in the hours of his greatest extremity? Where do you need to pour out your heart to God right now?

Warm-Ups

Saturday

John 20:1-31

What are the different feelings experienced by the followers of Jesus following his crucifixion, and then resurrection? Did confident faith come all at once? How confident are you that Jesus is really alive? How does that affect how you pray?

Sunday

Acts 4:1-31

How did confidence in the fact of the resurrection transform the lives of Jesus’ followers? Pray boldly today that the transforming power of the resurrected Jesus would be evident in our Easter services, and in the lives of those who attend.