

God Loves Adverbs

Prayer

01/10/10

Introduction:

1. One of the great blessings enjoyed by the Christian is the privilege of prayer.
2. Through prayer we find forgiveness. 1 John 1:9
3. Through Prayer we find peace. Philippians 4:6-7
4. Through prayer we find strength. Ephesians 4:14-16
5. Remember to thank God this week for the prayers He answered.

Text:

1 Thessalonians 5:17

Thesis:

Drawing closer to God means regularly enjoying the great privilege of communication. He has given us His word and we can hear Him. We can connect with the Mighty One through prayer.

Discussion: God Loves Adverbs – Prayer is the Verb

I) Faithful Prayer

- a) Matthew 21:22
 - 1) Matthew 7:7-8
 - 2) John 14:13-14
- b) Hebrews 11:6
 - 1) Luke 18:1-8
 - 2) Genesis 18
 - (i) Abram solicits God not to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah.
 - (ii) For only 50 again 45 again 40 again 30 again 20 again 10 found righteous.
- c) James 1:5-8
 - 1) Have a point to what we ask.
 - 2) Changing our minds indicates a lack of faith.
- d) Romans 10:17
 - 1) Strengthen your faith.
 - 2) Look what the Lord can do!

II) Humble Prayer

- a) Luke 18:9-14
 - 1) “Lord I know what You can do, not because I deserve Your help but simply because it is in your power.
 - 2) God does not answer my prayer because I deserve it, but because He loves me.
- b) Psalm 34:18
 - 1) The Lord is near to those with a broken heart.
 - 2) The Lord saves those who are repentant, and apologetic (Contrite).
- c) James 4:6
 - 1) God resists the proud.
 - 2) God blesses the humble with grace.

III) Harmonious Prayer

- a) 1 John 5:14
 - 1) We can have confidence.
 - 2) In line with His will, He hears us.
- b) Luke 22:42
 - 1) Jesus first priority was the Father’s will.
 - 2) Jesus said, “Follow me”
- c) James 4:3
 - 1) God is not a Genie in a bottle, granting our desires.
 - 2) God hears us ask with reason and purpose.

IV) Righteous Prayer

- a) 1 Peter 3:12

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- 1) God hears His own.
 - 2) God distances from evil.
 - b) James 5:16-18
 - 1) Effectual means powerful.
 - 2) Fervent means eager, enthusiastic, passionate.
 - c) Proverbs 28:9
 - 1) Some turn their back on God.
 - 2) Still have the audacity to pray for God's help.
 - d) Isaiah 59:1-2
 - 1) God can do ANYTHING!
 - 2) Did I separate myself from Him in disobedience?
- V) Thankful Prayer**
- a) Ephesians 5:20
 - 1) Always
 - 2) All Things
 - b) Philippians 4:6
 - (i) Don't be anxious, nervous.
 - (ii) ...By prayer and plea
 - c) Colossians 4:2
 - 1) Pray with thanksgiving.
 - 2) Watch with thanksgiving.
 - d) 1 Thessalonians 5:17-18
 - 1) Be in the relationship with God that He hears our prayer.
 - 2) Thank God in all things, even those things that are "Character Building".
- VI) Gotta call the right number (Jesus' Prayer)**
- a) Ephesians 5:20
 - 1) What's in a name.
 - 2) Call the wrong number.
 - b) John 14:6
 - 1) Jesus said "I am THE way" not one of the ways.
 - 2) Calling on a different line will just get you a busy signal.
 - c) Hebrews 7:24-25
 - 1) Jesus is our High Priest.
 - 2) He is the One that takes our concerns to God the Father.
 - d) John 14:13
 - 1) We must ask in His name.
 - 2) His name is the only One worthy to come before God.
 - e) Hebrews 4:14-16
 - 1) Jesus knows all our troubles and our blessings.
 - 2) It is by being brother and sister to Jesus we can come boldly before God the Father.

Conclusion

1. Do you enjoy prayer?
2. Do you desire God to hear your inner most concerns.
3. Be come brother or sister to Christ Himself and you can know that He hears you.