

Series: Moving Mountains

Message: Experience the Relationship of Prayer

Text: Matthew 6:5-13

-set the context in Luke - the disciples came to the Lord and asked Him to teach us to pray

-prayer is not about getting our way - not about moving God but about ministering to God

-Jesus speaks on the three things most associated with piety and religious experience

Abraham prayed and God spared Sodom and Gomorrah for a time

Jacob prayed and God changed His nature, His name and His nation

SyroPhonician woman prayed

Hannah prayed and God gave her a son who would be the spiritual leader of the nation through their first two kings

Elijah prayed and fire fell from heaven

Samson prayed and the Philistines were defeated

Manasseh prayed and God restored him to the land

Daniel prayed and the mouth of the lions were closed

Paul and Silas prayed and an earthquake shock the jail

Stephen prayed and heaven opened up

1. Authenticity

A. Avoid the false motive of publicity

-notoriety

elder brother

B. Avoid the false means of duplicity

empty repetitions

2. Unity & Community

our -

when we approach God - we always approach Him from our group relationships as well

Prayer is not a individual experience

1 Peter 3:7: "Husbands, likewise, dwell with *them* with understanding, giving honor to the wife, as to the weaker vessel, and as *being* heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers may not be hindered."

Matthew 18:19: "Again I say to you that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven."

Think about the Garden of Gethsemane

Acts 4:31: "And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness."

John 15:16-17: "You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and *that* your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you. ¹⁷ These things I command you, that you love one another."

3. Family

A. You approach God as your loving Father

access - like a child to Abba

reception -
communicate like you are inside a close family relationship

B. You turn your attention to God's home

-got to get your mind off of the earth - everything that is going on in your life and transport yourself to the heavenly