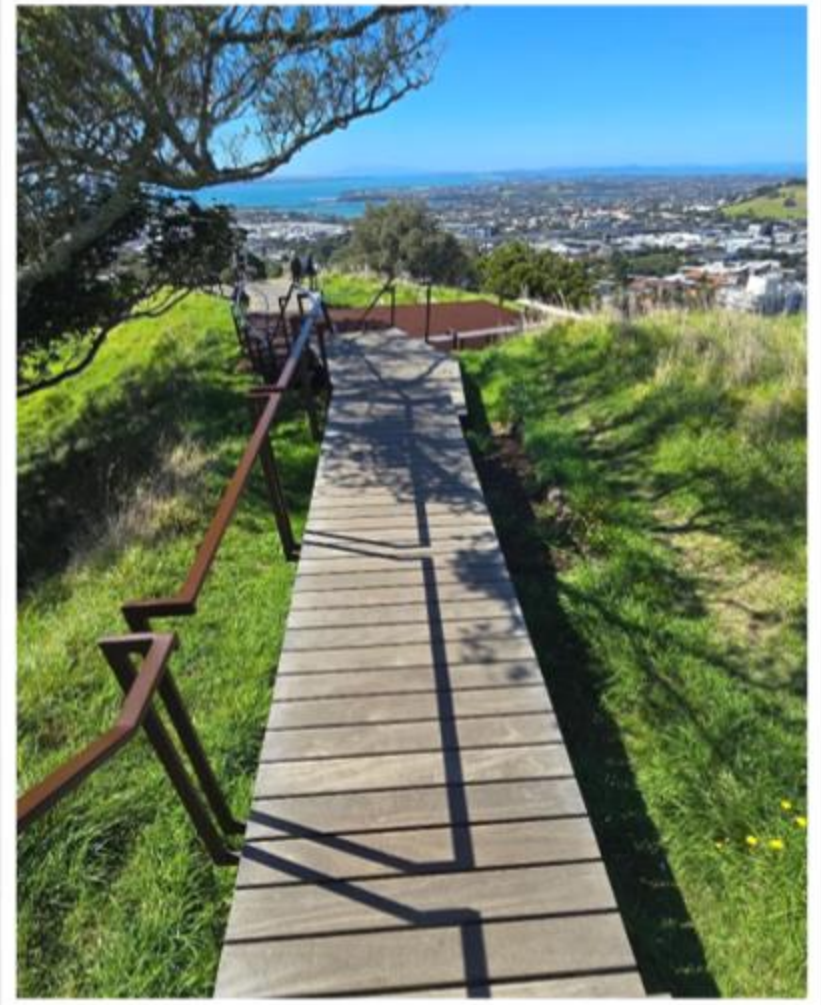
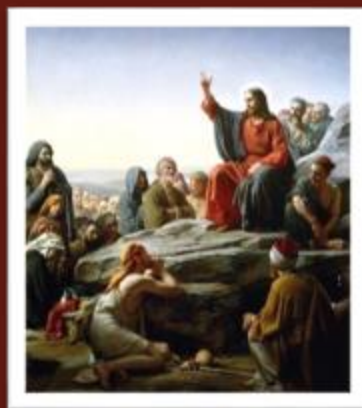


hills+ valleys









Prayer is not Performative

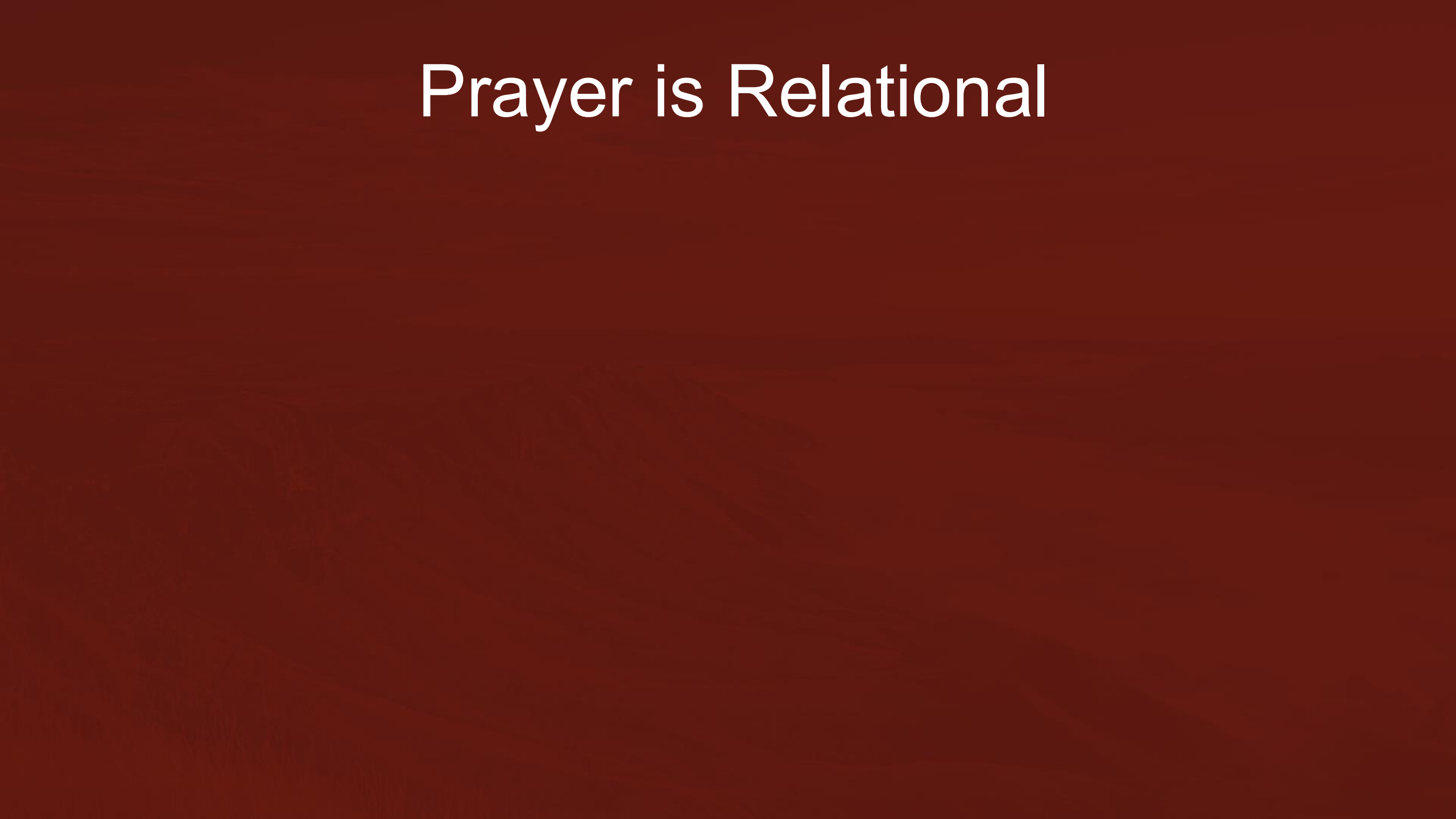
⁵ “When you pray, don’t be like the hypocrites who love to pray publicly on street corners and in the synagogues where everyone can see them. I tell you the truth, that is all the reward they will ever get. ⁶ But when you pray, go away by yourself, shut the door behind you, and pray to your Father in private. Then your Father, who sees everything, will reward you. ⁷ When you pray, don’t babble on and on as the Gentiles do. They think their prayers are answered merely by repeating their words again and again. (Matt. 6:5-7 NLT)

Prayer is not Performative

- We must not put on a show for others
 - If we pray for the attention of others, our prayers will die in their ears.
- We must not put on a show for God
 - God is not looking for prayers that are long and loud, but prayers that are humble and honest.

¹⁶ You do not desire a sacrifice, or I would offer one. You do not want a burnt offering. ¹⁷ The sacrifice you desire is a broken spirit. You will not reject a broken and repentant heart, O God. (Psalm 51:16-17 NLT)

Prayer is Relational



⁸ Don't be like them, for your Father knows exactly what you need even before you ask him! ⁹ Pray like this: Our Father in heaven, may your name be kept holy.
(Matt. 6:8 NLT)

Prayer is Relational

- In prayer we relate to God
 - Remembering who we're praying to can add reverence and warmth to our prayers.
- In prayer we relate to each other

⁹ Pray like this: **OUR** Father in heaven, may your name be kept holy. ¹⁰ May your Kingdom come soon. May your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. ¹¹ Give **US** today the food **WE** need, ¹² and forgive **US** our sins, as **WE** have forgiven those who sin against **US**. ¹³ And don't let **US** yield to temptation, but rescue **US** from the evil one.

(Matthew 6:9-13 NLT)

Prayer is Relational

- In prayer we relate to God
 - Remembering who we're praying to can add reverence and warmth to our prayers.
- In prayer we relate to each other
 - Praying together is Unifying
 - Praying together is Edifying
 - Praying together is Glorifying

In Prayer We Ask God to Act

¹⁰ May your Kingdom come soon. May your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. ¹¹ Give us today the food we need, ¹² and forgive us our sins, as we have forgiven those who sin against us. ¹³ And don't let us yield to temptation, but rescue us from the evil one.

(Matthew 6:10-13 NLT)

In Prayer We Ask God to Act

- In prayer we admit our need for God to act.
 - ¹⁴ And we are confident that he hears us whenever we ask for anything that pleases him. ¹⁵ And since we know he hears us when we make our requests, we also know that he will give us what we ask for. (1 John 5:14 NLT)
- Two Questions
 - “Where does it hurt?”
 - “What do you want Jesus to do for you?”

Prayer Movement 1: Relate to God

“Faith is not a once-done act, but a continuous gaze of the heart at the Triune God. Believing, then, is directing the heart’s attention to Jesus. It is lifting the mind to ‘behold the Lamb of God,’; and never ceasing that beholding for the rest of our lives. At first this may be difficult, but it becomes easier as we look steadily at His wonderful Person, quietly and without strain.” – A.W. Tozer

Breathe In – “Abba”
Breathe Out – “Father”

Prayer Movement 2: Relate to Each Other

¹⁸ Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere. ¹⁹ And pray for me, too. Ask God to give me the right words so I can boldly explain God's mysterious plan that the Good News is for Jews and Gentiles alike. (Ephesians 6:18 NLT)

1. Who are you?
2. Share One High and One Low.
3. What do you want Jesus to do for you?

Pray for each other.

Prayer Movement 3: Asking God to Act

Pray for the Body of Christ

Continued healing for Barry after removal of a lesion that now requires testing.

Pray for relief from pain and healing for Pricilla, especially for her kidneys.

Pray for the Thailand team as they process their time overseas.

Pray for Andrew as he continues to travel.

Pray for others who are unwell in the Church.

Pray for those in the Church looking for jobs or dealing with immigration issues.

Pray for the upcoming Christmas Market.

Prayer Movement 3: Asking God to Act

Pray for the Lost

Pray specifically for those you want to share the Gospel with that you have not yet.

Pray specifically for those you've shared the Gospel with.

Pray for your family and friends who are far from God.

Pray big bold prayers, knowing God can do incredible things to seek and save the lost.