

**Do you possess your prayers or do your prayers possess you**  
**Nehemiah 1:1-2:5**  
**May 16, 2021**

Prayer and life are \_\_\_\_\_

There is no doubt about this truth our prayers and our lives are inseparable and yet in many of our lives that is exactly what has happen. There is no real \_\_\_\_\_ between our prayers and how we daily live.

First off we see that

**1. When prayer possesses us it reflects our \_\_\_\_\_.** *Nehemiah 1:4*

Prayers prayed without emotion are \_\_\_\_\_ and empty.

It is not the words that we say that God hears but the \_\_\_\_\_ that prays them.

*Psalms 37:4* Find your delight in the \_\_\_\_\_ not in the things of this world, and God will fill your heart with His desires and your prayers and your life will be one.

**2. When prayer possesses us prayer takes more than a few \_\_\_\_\_.**  
*Nehemiah 1:6*

Prayer must possess my \_\_\_\_\_ life.

To often our lives and our prayers are at \_\_\_\_\_ with each other

- We pray to be closer to God but we do not read our Scripture or do the things we need to do to come close to God
- We pray for God to work and then we go ahead and try to accomplish whatever we prayed for on our own
- We pray for God to be with us throughout the day, then we end our prayer and never think about God again.

- We pray for people, and we never listen to see if God would use us to help them.

**3. Prayer that possesses us is \_\_\_\_\_.** *Nehemiah 1:6-7*

Prayer that possess is honest with God

- It admits its \_\_\_\_\_
- It confess is it \_\_\_\_\_
- It acknowledges its \_\_\_\_\_ upon God.

Prayers that possess us come up from out of our weakness, for we know we cannot achieve them on our own, we know that we are not even worthy to be asking favors from God. Yet that is the amazing thing when we come to God in weakness, not in strength, or pride, but in weakness and humility that is \_\_\_\_\_ God hears our prayers. That is the heart that moves God.

**4. Prayer that possesses \_\_\_\_\_ what God has promised.**  
*Nehemiah 1:8-10, 2 Peter 1:3-4*

God has given you His promises – the promises of this word so that you can become \_\_\_\_\_ of the divine nature – that you may share in, use the divine nature – the very power of God – so that you may overcome the corruption of this world, so that you may overcome the attacks of Satan in your life, so that we together may overcome this world and be instruments of God to bring His power, His love, His miracles to this world.

So

\_\_\_\_\_ the promises of God  
\_\_\_\_\_ the promises of God  
\_\_\_\_\_ the promises of God  
\_\_\_\_\_ the promises of God

**5. Prayer that possesses us specifically asks and then expects God to \_\_\_\_\_**  
*Nehemiah 1:11-2:2*

We want God not only to answer our prayer but to do it in a way that does not \_\_\_\_\_ us anything or involve us in the answer in any way.

I want my kids saved – but do not ask me to do it

I want my country to turn around – but don't ask me to stand up for my beliefs

I want my church to be strong – but don't ask me to commit to serving or even commit to daily pray for it.

But the truth is

God will ...

God will answer our \_\_\_\_\_

God will hear our \_\_\_\_\_

God will work through our \_\_\_\_\_

We must be ready to take hold of God's answers and \_\_\_\_\_ with it.

We must believe that God is answering our prayer and not doubt as James says *James 1:6-8*

#### **6. Prayer that possesses keeps \_\_\_\_\_ focused even in the answering**

*Nehemiah 2:3-6*

Prayer should \_\_\_\_\_ every step of our day

When we see God working – prayer should guide our steps

When we don't see God working - prayer should guide our steps

When God opens door – prayer should guide our steps

When life goes on as normal – prayer should guide our steps

So too we cling to the promise *Philippians 1:6*

#### **7. Prayers that possess are \_\_\_\_\_ when God answers.**

*Nehemiah 2:7-9, Acts 4:23-31*

Notice that Nehemiah was embolden by what he saw God doing to ask for even more. So to the disciples were embolden by their release from Sanhedrin to pray for boldness in their witness.

When our prayers \_\_\_\_\_ our heart, when they possess us, and fill us, we will see God work and praise Him.

Answered prayers \_\_\_\_\_ the heart that as poured itself into prayer to pray even more, to ask even more, to strive for God even more, and God sees that and gives even more.

This is what happens when our prayers \_\_\_\_\_ us.

Just one more thing that we need to ask ourselves today. That each of us truly need to answer in our hearts. And that question is...

Is this a book of things \_\_\_\_\_ or things \_\_\_\_\_?

Do you really believe that God \_\_\_\_\_ and will restore, renew and build our church into a great force for His work?

Do you really \_\_\_\_\_ that prayer can change the course of our nation and pull it back from the moral destruction that it is headed for?

Do you really \_\_\_\_\_ that God can and will bring your child back to God, change your spouse, heal your relationships completely?

Our prayer can only possess us when we truly believe that

- God can \_\_\_\_\_ our prayers today
- God \_\_\_\_\_ to answer our prayers today

It is prayer that changes the world- It is prayer that changes lives – it is prayer that changes you

**Come and join us this week as we pray and be a part of what God will do in our families, our church and our nation.**