More Than The Need

Zac Case April 12, 2023

We think prayer is complicated.

We think prayer is boring.

We think prayer doesn't work.

All of our excuses for not praying come from one aspect: our feelings.

Would those closest to you say it is normal for you to pray?

Luke 11:1a

Once Jesus was in a certain place praying. As he finished, one of his disciples came to him and said, "Lord, teach us to pray."

The miracles of Jesus performed came from his time in prayer.

Physical Representation of Prayer

- Standing (Genesis 24:12-14)
- Lifting the hands (1 Timothy 2:8)
- Sitting (Judges 20:26)
- Kneeling (Mark 1:40)
- Looking upward (John 17:1)
- Bowing down (Exodus 34:8)
- Placing the head between the knees (1 Kings 18:42)
- Pounding on the breast (<u>Luke 18:13</u>)

Prayer is not the position on your knees, but the disposition of your heart.

Matthew 6:6

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.

Prayer is the language of the poor.

Psalm 86:1

Bend down, O Lord, and hear my prayer; answer me, for I need your help.

Psalm 34:6

In my desperation I prayed, and the Lord listened; and he saved me from all of my troubles

2 Corinthians 12:9

Each time he said, "My grace is all you need. My power works best in weakness." So now I am glad to boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ can work through me.

If we pray for just our needs, we miss the depth of who God is.

In prayer, God's purpose is beyond fulfilling your needs, and your purpose is beyond just making requests.

Our relationship with God changes from "I need this" to "I need You."

1 Thessalonians 5:17

Never stop praying.

Psalm 139:23-24

Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. 24 See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting

"No man is greater than his prayer life."
- Leonard Ravenhill