

THE PRAYER OF FAITH

William Arthur: “Crown this nineteenth century with a revival of pure and undefiled religion...greater than any demonstration of the Spirit ever vouchsafed to man.”

What the “Layman’s Prayer Revival” can teach us today:

First, _____ can still happen.

Second, Revival does not usually begin with _____ or preachers.

Third, _____ is powerful.

James 5: 13 Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. 14 Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. 15 And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. 16 Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working. 17 Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. 18 Then he prayed again, and heaven gave rain, and the earth bore its fruit. 19 My brothers, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and someone brings him back, 20 let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from his wandering will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

THE _____ OF PRAYER

Prayer is simply _____ with God. It’s not a chore, not giving God a laundry list of our demands, not emptying the mind in the form of meditation.

Matthew 27: 50 And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and yielded up his spirit. 51 And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And the earth shook, and the rocks were split.

Prayer should be our first and most natural response to any and all situations.

1 Thessalonians 5: 16 Rejoice always, 17 pray without ceasing, 18 give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

The way you view God will directly affect how you pray to God. If you view Him as your boss, you might not come to Him with all your troubles. But if you see Him as your father, you will.

Prayer is a _____, not a _____.

THE MAIN REASONS DANIEL DOES NOT PRAY:

First, I'm _____.

Second, I'm _____.

Third, I'm distant from God.

Fourth, My _____ of prayer is wrong.

Paul Miller: "Prayer is simply the medium through which we experience and connect to God"

Fifth, I _____ that it will actually make a difference.

Donald Whitney: "Often we do not pray because we doubt that anything will actually happen if we pray. Of course, we don't admit this publicly. But if we felt certain of visible results within sixty seconds of every prayer, there would be holes in the knees of every pair of Christian-owned pants in the world. Obviously the Bible never promises this, even though God does promise to answer prayer. Since prayer involves communication in the spiritual realm, many prayers are answered in ways that cannot be seen in the material realm. Many prayers are answered in ways different from what we asked."

Question Set 1

_____ **PRAYER**

James 5: 14 Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. 15 And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up.

The plural of anecdote is _____.

The scientific and medical community are now catching up to the Bible:

Studies are now showing that heart patients are 15 times more likely to die following surgery if they did not regularly participate in religious activities.

Hospitalized patients who have never attended church, never prayed, never had persistence in their spiritual life, have an average stay of three times longer than people who are engaged in religious activities like prayer.

The Huffington Post, not at all a Christian Publication, once wrote an article entitled, "Why People Who Pray Are Healthier Than Those Who Don't." In it, the author says, "regular prayer and meditation has been shown in numerous scientific studies to be an important factor in living longer and staying healthy."

A study from the University of Texas found that people who regularly pray and attend religious services live 7 years longer than their non-praying, non-attending counterparts.

After conducting multiple studies, one Duke University doctor says, "all of these studies, all the reports, are remarkably consistent in suggesting the potential measurable health benefit associated with prayer or spiritual interventions."

God is still in the healing _____.

_____ PRAYER

God answers every prayer in one of three ways: Yes, No, or _____.

You have prayed for some things that you thought were good for you, but God knew that they weren't.

Luke 18: And he told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart. 2 He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor respected man. 3 And there was a widow in that city who kept coming to him and saying, 'Give me justice against my adversary.' 4 For a while he refused, but afterward he said to himself, 'Though I neither fear God nor respect man, 5 yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will give her justice, so that she will not beat me down by her continual coming.'" 6 And the Lord said, "Hear what the unrighteous judge says. 7 And will not God give justice to his elect, who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them? 8 I tell you, he will give justice to them speedily.

Question Set 2