



As You Wish: How to Pray

Message by Blake Hanson

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If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. (John 15:7 NIV)

The Lord is near to all who call on him, and to all who call on him in truth. (Psalm 145:18 NIV)

Big Idea: Prayer _____ God's power in our life.

Challenge #1: We simply don't know how to pray.

Question #1: How do we pray? (Luke 11:1-4 NLT)

6 Steps For Praying:

1. Give God _____. (Luke 11:2)

2. Declare His _____. (Luke 11:2)

3. Declare His _____ be done. (Luke 11:2)

4. Request your _____ be met. (Luke 11:3)

5. Request your _____ be forgiven. (Luke 11:4)

6. Request _____ over temptation. (Luke 11:4)

When we pray like _____ it unlocks God's power in our life.

Challenge #2: There are times when it seems prayers go unanswered.

Question #2: What do we do when prayers seem to go unanswered?

(Luke 11:5-13)

1. BE _____ PERSISTENT. (Luke 11:5-8)

2. EXPLORE _____ OPPORTUNITY. (Luke 11:9-10)

3. _____ MUCH _____ FROM GOD. (Luke 11:11-13)

_____ even unlock God's power in our life.

Talk it Over:

“How to Pray”

Big Idea:

Prayer is powerful because we get to talk to the All-Powerful God!
So, ask & keep asking!

Discussion Questions:

- Have you ever become so frustrated that you stopped praying for a season? What was the result? What lessons did you learn from the experience?
- What are some ways you keep your prayer life fresh & vibrant?
- Have you ever been surprised when God answered one of your prayers? Has He ever done more than what you asked? What does it reveal about God's nature when He answers prayer in spite of our weakness and doubts?

Prayer Focus This Week:

The world is full of so-called prayer warriors who are prayer-ignorant. They're full of formulas and programs and advice, peddling techniques for getting what you want from God. Don't fall for that nonsense. This is your Father you are dealing with, and he knows better than you what you need. With a God like this loving you, you can pray very simply. Like this:

“Our Father in heaven, Reveal who you are. Set the world right; Do what's best- as above, so below. Keep us alive with three square meals. Keep us forgiven with you and forgiving others. Keep us safe from ourselves and the Devil. You're in charge! You can do anything you want! You're ablaze in beauty! Yes. Yes. Yes.” (Matthew 6:9-13 MSG)

Next Steps:

- One of the best ways to grow in our prayer life is to learn from others. Join us for a night of prayer and worship this Tuesday, Sept. 3. We'll enjoy dinner together from 5:30-6:30 PM (come at any time), and then we'll pray from 6:30-7:45 PM.
- Schedule a meeting in your calendar with God this week. In that meeting, set up two chairs talk to God about what's going on in your life. You might be surprised how this simple action step this week will change everything!