
Week 6: Corporate Prayer

I. Introduction

Sundays - "Church Gathered"

1. Corporate Prayer
2. Sunday School
3. Corporate Worship

II. What is prayer?

1. The Word and prayer are inseparable, but the Word still has primacy

2. The essence of prayer - "Desire and Dependence"

1. Prayers of Desire

1) *Desiring God*

Psalm 63:1 - O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water

2) *Desiring God's kingdom*

Matthew 6:9-10 - 9 Pray then like this: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. 10 Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

2. Prayers of Dependence

1) *Dependence for desiring God*

Psalm 51:10 - Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

2) *Dependence for expanding God's kingdom*

Acts 1:8 - 8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.

3. Prayers of Desire rightly align Prayers of Dependence

James 4:3 - You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions.

3. God delights in prayer because our desire and dependence glorifies Him as Highest Treasure (desire) and Mightiest Savior (dependence)

III. How does God answer prayer?

1. “No” - It’s not good for you
2. “Wait” - It’s not good for you...yet
3. “Yes” - I want to give this and I delight in your asking

Matthew 7:7 - Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you

James 4:2 - You do not have, because you do not ask

IV. Why does Joy of All Nations need to pray?

V. How will Joy of All Nations pray?

Matthew 18:19-20 - 19 Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. 20 For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”

1. Corporate Prayer Culture
 1. Praying before serving
 2. Praying during meetings
2. Corporate Prayer Meeting

VI. Discussion Questions

Adults:

- What might be relevant, helpful, convicting, or clarifying from what you heard?
- What are questions, concerns, clarifications you have from what you heard?

Children:

- What is something you want to ask your parents to get for you when you walk into a store?
 - Do they always get you the thing you ask for?
 - Why might they not give it to you?
 - Why would they give it to you?
- How is your relationship with your parents like your relationship with God in prayer?
- Are there some things in your life we can pray for together?