

Adoration

Question: “Why wouldn’t God answer that prayer?”

Have you experienced a time that you feel God is:

- A. not listening,
- B. doesn’t care, or
- C. ignorant of your prayer?

Pray Differently

The disciples asked Jesus to “Teach us to pray.”

Jesus’s Praying:

- 1. Prayed with a sense of familiarity with God.
- 2. Prayed with a reverence that was sincere and honest.
- 3. Prayed in a conversation style.
- 4. Prayed with more listening than talking.

Jesus’s prayers were effective and got God’s attention.

Prov. 15:29 – “The Lord is **far** from the wicked but he hears the prayer of the righteous.”

Phil. 5-6 – “The Lord is **near**. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.”

Have you felt God being far away and have you experienced God being near?

Jesus taught the disciples not to pray harder or more often, but how to pray.

Remember Who You’re Talking To

Jesus lays a threefold foundation for prayer:

- 1. Remember who God is.
- 2. Remember who you are.
- 3. Remember who we are to each other.

Remember Who God Is

Is God knowable? Jesus’s use of the term Father was a radicle departure from the Jewish tradition.

How rebellious to Jewish culture and understanding of an all-powerful, revered, and judgmental God was Jesus’s use of the term “Father” in describing and calling out to a loving, good, knowable God?

Do you have trouble accepting that God loves and cares about you and your needs?

Psalms 147: 10-11 – “His pleasure is not in the strength of the horse, nor his delight in the legs of a man; the Lord delights in those who fear him, who put their hope in his unfailing love.”

God’s delight is not in our own abilities, but in our love and dependency on Him.