

James 5:17 “Elijah was a man just like us. He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years. ^[18] Again he prayed, and the heavens gave rain, and the earth produced its crops.”

C. God wants us to pardon others when we pray!

****Mark 11:25** “And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive them, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins.”

Ephesians 4:31 “Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice.”

Ephesians 4:32 “Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.”

The Importance of Prayer

Mark 11:20-26

Lesson #45

8-9-26

Luke 18:1 “Then Jesus told His disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up.”

I Thessalonians 5:17 “Pray continually!”

****Mark 11:14** “Then he said to the tree, “May no one ever eat fruit from you again.” And his disciples heard him say it.”

Mark 11:20 “In the morning, as they went along, they saw the fig tree withered from the roots.”

****Mark 11:21** “Peter remembered and said to Jesus, “Rabbi, look! The fig tree you cursed has withered!”

Matthew 21:20 “When the disciples saw this, they were amazed, “How did the fig tree wither so quickly?” they asked.”

I. Prayer is effective when we have faith!

****Mark 11:22** “Have faith in God,” Jesus answered.”

****Mark 11:23** “I tell you the truth, if anyone says to this mountain, ‘Go, throw yourself into the sea,’ and does not doubt in their heart but believes that what they say will happen, it will be done for them.”

Psalms 143:8 “Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love, for I have put my trust in you. Show me the way I should go, for to you I lift up my soul.”

Psalms 28:7a “The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in Him, and I am helped.”

Psalms 37:5 “Commit your way to the LORD; trust in Him and He will do this.”

Jeremiah 17:7 “But blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, whose confidence is in Him.”

****Mark 11:24** “Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.”

II. Prayer is effective because God's power does not falter!

Matthew 21:21 "Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, if you have faith and do not doubt, not only can you do what was done to the fig tree, but also you can say to this mountain, 'Go, throw yourself into the sea,' and it will be done."

Jeremiah 32:17 "Ah Sovereign LORD, you have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and outstretched arm. NOTHING is too hard for you."

James 1:6 "But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind.
[7] That man should not think He will receive anything from the Lord;
[8] He is a double-minded man, unstable in all he does."

Deuteronomy 5:15 "Remember that you were slaves in Egypt and that the LORD your God brought you out of there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm."

Deuteronomy 7:18 "But do not be afraid of them; remember well what the LORD your God did to Pharaoh and to all Egypt."

III. Prayer is effective when it aligns with the heavenly Father's will.

1 John 5:14 "This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us."

Deuteronomy 3:26b "... That is enough," the LORD said, "Do not speak to Me anymore about this matter."

Mark 14:36 "Abba Father," He said, "everything is possible for You. Take this cup from Me. Yet not what I will, but what you will."

James 4:3 "When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures."

Matthew 6:5 "And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by men. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full."

IV. Prayer is effective when we forgive!

****Mark 11:25** "And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive them, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins."

Genesis 45:4b "... I am your brother Joseph, the one you sold into Egypt! And now, do not be distressed and do not be angry with yourselves for selling me here, because it was to save lives that God sent me ahead of you."

Genesis 45:7 "But God sent me ahead of you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to save our lives by a great deliverance."

Genesis 45:11 "I will provide for you there,"

Matthew 18:21 "Then, Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to seven times."

Matthew 18:22 "Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times."

Ephesians 4:32 "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."

****Mark 11:26** "But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father who is in heaven forgive your sins."

How can we take this lesson and apply it to our life?

A. God wants us to pray!

James 4:2b "... You do not have, because you do not ask God."

Philippians 4:6 "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."

Philippians 4:7 "And the peace of God which transcends all understanding, will guard your heart and your minds in Christ Jesus."

B. God provides our needs when we pray!

James 5:16b "... The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective."

John 5:14 "This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us."